

2008

Annual
Report

Town of Meredith

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The Photo Featured on the Front Cover was taken by: Patricia Tourigny
and is our 2008 Annual Report Front Cover
Photo Contest Winner.

Congratulations Patricia!

The Town of Meredith ran its first ever photo contest and on Election Day, you the people placed votes for your favorite Meredith Photo. The gorgeous picture that is on the front cover received 83 votes out of 581 total votes placed. Patricia Tourigny submitted the photo of Meredith Bay which was taken when she was on an early morning walk last November. We also have most of the other photos featured on the back page in full color.

We would like to thank all of you who submitted your Meredith photos. We had a total of 34 pictures that were in the contest. It was a very exciting day at the polls and many people brought in their children to see the voting process. We were able to direct them to the Photo Contest and they could actually place a vote that day and receive a sticker stating that they had voted!

Thank you to...

Carrie Compton for the great idea.

Our Selectmen for allowing us to have a photo contest.

All of the following for submitting a photo...

Harry Welch, Tim Carter, Shelley Wieler, Ralph Pisapia,
Grace Ainsworth, Michelle Goodearl, Kate Miller, Patricia Tourigny,
Vint Choiniere, Lisa Davis, Paula Jones, Trixie Wadson,
Dino Rossi, Nita (Butman) Hultz, and John Dever III.

Eric Ferland for displaying the pictures on our website.

Linda Labraney for answering emails and printing the display boards.

Parks and Recreation staff that setup for the voting.

All of you Meredith Voters that took time to place a vote.

The After School Program Kids who counted and tallied all 581 votes.

The list above shows the time, effort and planning that it took to actually have a successful photo contest. We are thankful that you the people had to make the toughest decision by placing a vote for only one of the beautiful pictures.

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THE TOWN OF MEREDITH NEW HAMPSHIRE

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CONCORD, NH



2008

ANNUAL REPORT

for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2008

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What is this Town Report all about?

This Annual Town Report contains... information gathered from town departments, supported outside agencies and gives results of the 2008 Town Meeting. You can view the Vital Statistics, Town Financial Statements, Tax Rate, Ten Year Tax Rate Comparison and a Summary of Town Owned Property. Following in the yellow section is our current Budget and Warrant Articles.

Town Elections (Please Vote)

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Location: Community Center

1 Circle Drive

Time: 7am to 7pm

Please bring this book to Town Meeting on...

Wednesday, March 11, 2008

Location: Inter-Lakes High School

1 Laker Lane

Time: 7pm

Award

Each year our report is entered into the Annual Town Report Contest which is held by the Local Government Center.

We compete against other Town's in the same population category.

We received third place for our 2007 Annual Town Report.

Recognition

The Town Manager, Department Heads and Outside Agencies are responsible for the written reports. The Financial Statements are prepared by the Administrative Services Director, Brenda L. Vittner, Deputy Tax Collector, Vikki Fogg and Disbursement Accountant, Carrie Compton. The layout, graphs and preparation of the Annual Report are completed by the Finance Officer, Linda Labraney.

Thank you to all who contributed to this report and congratulations for another award winning book.

TOWN REPORT DEDICATION

This years Town Report is dedicated to: Edith Mongo



Edith M. Mongo

Edith M. (Brong) Mitchell Sirles Mongo was born December 6, 1928 in Long Island New York. She was a graduate of Westhampton, NY High School, earned a bachelor's degree from NY State University at Oneida, and earned a master's degree in school administration from Plymouth State College.

As a longtime resident of Meredith, she owned and operated E.A. Sirles Gun shop and E.A. Sirles Construction. Edith later worked at Melody's Kitchen and Golden View Healthcare Center. She had held her Federal Firearms License until the age of 79, which made her the longest licensed women in the state of New Hampshire.

She was active in the community, serving six years as a Meredith Selectman and also the first women to ever serve as selectman in Meredith. She was awarded a citation by Governor Jeanne Shaheen for volunteerism, and was named Citizen of the Year by the Meredith Chamber of Commerce.

Edith was a member of the Meredith Historical Society, American Legion Auxiliary Post 33, First Congregational Church, former member of Mary Butler Chapter DAR, Ellacoya Chapter 43 life member of the Winnipesaukee Sportsmen's Club, Gun Owners of NH, former secretary on the Board of Directors for the Lakes Region Symphony, former member of the Lakes Region Planning Commission, former member of the Belknap County Economic Development Council, Belknap County Republican Committee, National Trust for Historic Preservation and the State Committee for Aging.

IN SPECIAL MEMORIAM

Rebecca D. "Becky" Anderson graduated from Rehoboth High School in 1943.

She was a secretary in the office of the headquarters at Fort Miles, Lewes, Delaware, during World War II.



Becky was co-owner of Prescott Lumber Company, with her husband, John, in the 60's and 70's. During her years at the Lumber Company, she donated the land at the foot of Lake Waukewan to be used as a Town park in perpetuity. To the family, it will always be called Rebecca's park.

She was a member of the First Congregational Church in Meredith where she was a former superintendent of the Sunday School. At the time of her death, she was in charge of the cradle roll and helped with other correspondence. She was also a past treasurer of the Meredith Public Nursing Association.

She lived in New England for the past 54 years, both in Meredith and in Maine. She was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother. She was always there for her family. She loved to read, crochet, identify birds and find wildflowers. She was an avid Red Sox fan.



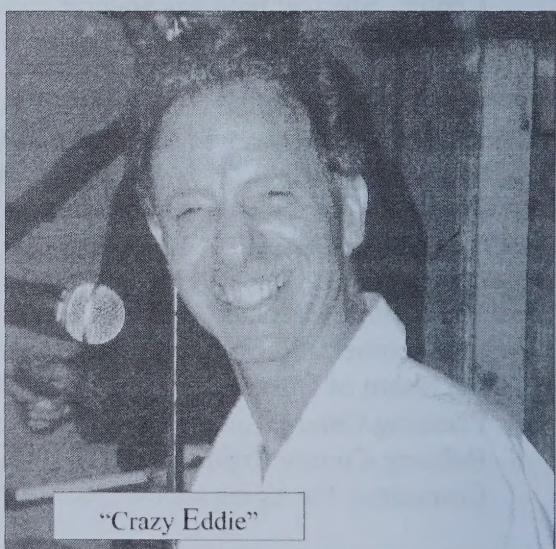
Edward Barbato was born in the Bronx, NY., on January 13, 1948. At the age of four he began performing with his parents in a vaudeville act called "The Sweethearts of Broadway."

He taught music and performed in the Lakes Region since the late 70's. His main love was playing the drums, and he performed with Al Kooper, Cindi Lauper, Chuck Berry, The Belmonts, Bob Dylan, The Drifters, Little Richard, Paul Shaffer, Bruce Springstein, The Neville Brothers and Joey Dee and the Starlighters, who is his brother-in-law and known for recording the "Peppermint Twist".

Here in the Lakes Region he was the drummer for the well known group Colada. He had performed with his long time close friends aboard the Mt. Washington for 20 summers.

It was here performing solo on Family Night that he acquired the name "Crazy Eddie". One of his greatest rewards came by teaching countless students of all ages drums and guitar for years at Greenlaw's Music. He also performed for our Meredith Parks and Recreation Kids & Seniors at Leavitt Beach.

Eddie released his own CD titled "Point of a Journey", which sold thousands of copies. He is listed in "Who's Who of Musicians," he organized the music and played in the Meredith Arts and Crafts Festival, and was a member of Local 38 NYC's Musician Union.



IN SPECIAL MEMORIAM



June Sidney

June A. Sidney was born September 17, 1966, in Rochester. She had been a resident of Meredith Center for the past 24 years.

She was employed at Amatex Corporation in Laconia, for the past year and previously been employed at LW Packard, in Ashland for 15 years.

June was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, Wilkins-Smith Post #1 of Laconia, and was also a member of the Meredith Fire Department Auxiliary.

She enjoyed auto racing, camping and fishing. June loved spending time with family and friends.



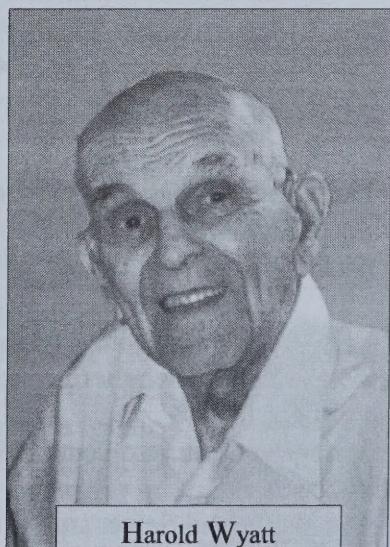
Harold George Wyatt was born December 7, 1913 in Lisbon. He was a resident of Meredith since 1931. He held a number of jobs, including hauling wood by ox team from Meredith to Franklin, and delivering grain and oil by truck all over New England. He spent 25 years with the Meredith Public Works Department, the last five as superintendent, retiring January 1, 1976. He served as selectman for five years and was instrumental in crafting the growth guidelines for the town that are still in use today.

He served on the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, as well as, being former member of the New Hampshire Belknap County Genealogy Society. He was an active member of the Meredith Historical Society.

In 1981 he was honored for his service to Meredith by the naming of the Harold G. Wyatt Conference Room, presently in the Meredith Community Center. Harold has spent many years researching the roads of Meredith at the Belknap County Registry of Deeds. He compiled the sum of that research into a book, "Road History of Meredith" which was published in 1981. Never one to sit still, Harold wrote two more books, "Some Meredith History" and "Way Out There," a history of the Chemung section of Meredith, which he co-authored with his wife, Esther.

He taught himself to use the computer at age 80 and wrote a column for the Meredith News, "Time Was," for 12 years.

In 2000, he and Esther were named Town Historians.



Harold Wyatt

IN SPECIAL MEMORIAM

John "Jack" Bryant Jr., 82, of Plymouth Street, died November 10, 2008, at Golden View Health Care Center in Meredith. Jack was born in Springfield, Mass., on January 13th, 1926, he was the son of John W. Sr. and Madeline (Robinson) Bryant.

He grew up in Sandwich and attended Sandwich schools. As a young man he ran a farm in Sandwich. After moving to Meredith, he worked for several local lumber and building supplies companies, as a manager to vice president of operations. These companies were all in Meredith, and they included Lumbertown, Prescott Lumber, Gerrity Building Supply and Wickes Lumber Company. During his retirement he worked as a driver for the Ambrose Construction Company.

He had been a resident of Meredith since 1956. From 1957 to 1982 he was a member of the Meredith Volunteer Fire Department, and served as chief for five years from 1977 to 1982.



DEDICATED SERVICE

Dan Cutting began his career with the Water & Sewer Department an operator, later he was promoted to the position of foreman. Dan is remembered for his sense of humor and was most at home on the backhoe or plowing snow.

Dan was very outgoing, related well with the public and was well respected by his peers. Dan was always there when there was an emergency and you could always find him digging in the ditch.

Should you run into Dan could you please say thanks for his years of service?

The Water and Sewer staff wishes Dan the very best.

DEDICATED SERVICE

continued..



Steven R. Bennett grew up watching his dad, Robert Bennett, give many hours of service to the Town of Meredith. Following in his dad's footsteps, Steve has given an impressive number of years to the service of the residents of the Town of Meredith. Most people know Steve and his smiling face from the Meredith Village Savings Bank where he has worked for 23 years.

Steve has been a member of the Meredith Fire Department for 38 years, serving as First Lt. for 2 years, as Training Officer for 7 years, a Deputy Forest Fire Warden for 17 years and is now serving in his 24th year as the Department Records Clerk. He was a member of the Meredith Auxiliary Police Department for 5 years and worked as a Part Time police officer for two years. He has served as the Meredith Emergency Management Director for 25 years. He wrote and obtained state approval for the very first Emergency Response Plan for the Town of Meredith.

Over the past years he has also served on various committees for the town. He was appointed by the Board of Selectmen to serve on the "Life Safety 101" research committee, served as chairman of the Town Hazardous Mitigation Committee for two years, and has been a volunteer for eleven years for the Town of Meredith's Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day.

In addition to service for the town Government, over the years Steve has served as:

Chairman of the State of NH Resource Committee for the M.V. Mount Washington Emergency Response Plan; "Judge" for the Meredith Rotary Club Annual Ice Fishing Derby for 17 years; an honorary member of the Altrusa International Club of Meredith, NH (devoting 10+ years of service to their club in various areas); a member of the Sons of the American Legion Post #33 for 19 years; a member of the NH State Police Auxiliary for four years; a member and an Emergency Response Team instructor for the Lakes Region Emergency Planning Council for two years; a forum speaker for and member of the Lakes Region Partnership for Public Health/ Citizen Corps Council; supporter and member of the Meredith Main Street Program, now known as the Greater Meredith Program since 1997. He has volunteered for many festivals and events, including the Christmas Horse and Carriage Parade, Haunted Forest and other Halloween Events and even performing as the "Great Pumpkin" character! Steve was even "Santa" on the fire truck for many years when the Meredith Fire Department collected and delivered Christmas toys to families in need and gave rides on the fire truck to the children during the town Christmas open house.

Steve has lived in Meredith all his life except for his college years at UNH. He has been married to Monica Bennett for 38 years. They have one daughter, Kelly Bennett.

Steve's philosophy is simple: "It's your town. Be a part of it."



Paula Jones was honored with a retirement party for her **31 years of service**. She started part time and went full time as Deputy Town Clerk in 1977. Paula was appointed as Town Clerk in 1997, and then elected in 1998. She continued as Town Clerk until she retired in March 2008.

Paula always had a quiet demeanor with an infectious smile. She treated each and every resident and co-worker with respect and honesty. She was truly a joy to work with. Her and her husband Robert are very active in the POW – MIA organization and you will often see her at the vigils on Thursday evenings. Paula was very excited about retiring to give herself time to spend with her beloved grandchildren, Samantha, Faith and Hope and doing all the craft projects that she didn't get to when she was working.

She plans on hibernating from the first snowfall until the spring.



TOWN OFFICIALS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Peter F. Brothers, 2009, Chairman

Charles G. Palm, 2011
Robert Flanders, 2010

Colette Worsman, 2009
Miller C. Lovett, 2010

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Moderator, 2010
Town Clerk, 2011
Treasurer, 2011

Stephen Nedeau
Kerri A. Parker
Louann Breen

TOWN DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS

Town Manager & Tax Collector
Administrative Services Director & Co-Interim Town Manager
Community Development Director & Co-Interim Town Manager
Town Planner
Code Enforcement Officer
Public Works Director
Assistant Public Works Director
Water & Sewer Superintendent
Assessor
Parks & Recreation Director
Parks & Recreation Assistant Director
Library Director
Deputy Tax Collector
Deputy Town Clerk

Carol M. Granfield, (retired)
Brenda L. Vittner
John C. Edgar, AICP
Angela LaBrecque
William M. Edney
Michael Faller
Allan Bolduc
Brian Carroll
James Commerford, CNHA
Vint M. Choiniere, CPRP
Rick Desharnais
Erin Apostolos
Valerie "Vikki" Fogg
Julie A. Choiniere

REPRESENTATIVES TO THE GENERAL COURT

Stephen H. Nedeau, 2008, Meredith
Bruce Heald, 2008, Meredith
Deborah Reynolds, 2008, Senator

POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS

Kevin Morrow, Chief
Keith True, Lieutenant

FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS

Ken Jones, Chief
Andre Kloetz, Assistant Chief
Tom Joslin, Assistant Chief

FOREST FIRE WARDEN

Charles G. Palm

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Steven R. Bennett, Director (retired)
Peter G. Russell, Assistant Director

TOWN OFFICIALS

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Cheryl Prouty, Chairperson, 2009

John Foster, 2009

Ann Keller, 2009

Jack McEwan, 2010

Paula Wanzer, 2010

William Finer, 2010

TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS

Barbara Clark, Chairperson, 2009

Richard Juve, 2011(resigned)

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

Lucienne M. Boulanger, Chairperson, 2010

Anne Jollimore, 2014

Rhetta Colon, 2012

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Paul Eldridge, Chair, 2009

Duncan McNeish, Treasurer, 2009

Laurie A. Brothers, 2011

Rhetta Colon, 2009

Victoria Carty, 2011

Delphine Clough, 2010

Joseph Jay Tivnan, 2009

PLANNING BOARD

Louis Kahn, 2010

Herb Vadney, Chairman, 2010

Bill Bayard, 2009

John W. Dever, III, 2010

Edward Touhey, 2010

Roger Sorell, 2009

Robert Flanders, Selectman Representative

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

John "Jack" Dever Jr., Chairman, 2009

Michael Pelczar, 2010

Brian Flanders, 2008

Warren Clark, 2010

David Thorpe, 2008

Alternates: Janice Joslin, 2009

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Donald MacFarlane, Chairman, 2010

Robert LeCount, 2010

Peter Miller, 2010

Daniel Heyduk, 2009

Barbara Smyth, 2010

John Sherman, 2010

Paul Del Frari, 2009

Jacquie Colburn, 2009

Paula Wanzer, 2010

Alternates:

Terry Lance, 2009

WAUKEWAN WATERSHED ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Bruce Bond, Chairman

Bonnie Ireland, Vice Chairperson

Bill Corr

Randy Eifert

Peter Brothers

Roger Fogler

Earl Hanson

John Hodsdon

Bob Wenstrup

Pru Tylenda

Jacquie Colburn (NHDES)

Daniel Moore

Michelle Therrien

Tim Whiting

Angela LaBrecque (Town of Meredith)

Bob Hill (Town of Meredith)

LAKES REGION PLANNING COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVES

Bill Bayard, 2010

Herb Vadney, 2010

Report from the Town Manager

2008 has been a challenging year from many perspectives. We are proud to report that our officials, employees, boards, commissions and committees have worked diligently to meet these challenges. Several highlights from 2008 help illustrate this.

The year began with record snow fall amounts placing a considerable strain on our Public Works employees, their families, their equipment and the budget. Thank you for your dedication in helping us through this difficult season.

In March, voters rejected a petitioned warrant seeking to adopt the provisions known as SB-2 (RSA 40:13). Immediately following this defeat, a petition was received seeking another ballot vote on the same matter in 2009. Voters will have a second opportunity to consider whether to adopt SB-2 Tuesday, March 10, 2009.

Also in March 2008, voters approved the construction of an addition to and refurbishing of the downtown fire station. Construction began in April. The project is on time and within budget. A public open house is anticipated in April or May 2009. Voters also overwhelmingly approved funding towards the conservation acquisition of the Page Pond and Forest property. After extensive negotiations and private fundraising, the funding package was finalized in December. The Town of Meredith took title to the property on January 12, 2009. Thank you to the many citizen-volunteers that have guided both of these projects to successful completion.

In April, the Board of Selectmen established the Water System Committee. This committee was charged with examining issues related to the water system and to develop a strategic plan addressing short and long term needs. Under the leadership of Chairman David Thorpe, the committee has made substantial progress with more work yet to be done.

During the course of the year, three new department heads were appointed. In January, the Library Board of Trustees hired Erin Apostolos as Library Director. In June, the town manager hired Ken Jones as Fire Chief and in September, Brian Carroll as Water and Sewer Superintendent. Each brings invaluable experience to their respective departments. Welcome to Meredith!

In August, Mother Nature dealt us another blow with a severe rain event leading to major flood damage around town. Once again, our departments worked together safeguarding the public in areas where extensive damage occurred. Following the event, the Department of Public Works was successful in seeking \$190,000 in reimbursement costs from FEMA.

In September we received notification from the Public Employees Labor Relation Board that a number of our employees were seeking to unionize. While it is unfortunate that many of our employees felt compelled to unionize, it is none-the-less their legal right to do so. We are currently awaiting a decision from the Public Employees Labor Relation Board concerning the Departments and positions that will constitute the employees bargaining unit. Following this decision, we will begin to bargain in good faith with the aim of reaching an amicable labor agreement.

Report from the Town Manager continued...

In early October, the Board of Selectmen accepted the resignation of Carol Granfield, Town Manager. The Board asked Brenda Vittner, Director of Administrative Services and John Edgar, Community Development Director to consider the position of Interim Co-Town Managers. In accepting this shared position, both Brenda and John advised the Board that neither were interested in the position of Town Manager. We expect to make modest improvements where we can and to facilitate a relatively smooth transition from one Town Manager to the next. We look forward to a return to our normal, departmental responsibilities. Everyone's patience with us is greatly appreciated.

During the last quarter of 2008, our energies were focused on the 2009 budget. The Board of Selectmen, working in consensus fashion, examined tax base projections, general fund balance, trust fund balances, surplus appropriations, projected non-property tax revenues and 2009 requested appropriations. Recognizing the hard reality of the economic climate and in consultation with our department heads, we were able to further reduce departmental budgets requests and present the Board with total appropriations that did not exceed the prior year's appropriation level (level funding). Given unfavorable revenue projections and the uncertainty of the economic times ahead, the Board sought to offset anticipated revenue losses through additional budget cuts, use of existing trust funds and selective user-fee increases. After careful consideration of numerous tradeoffs, the Board ultimately approved for voter consideration a budget that is 2% less than the prior year's appropriation.

In closing, we would like to reiterate to our employees and volunteers, our sincere appreciation for your dedicated service. You protect our well being, you safeguard our future and you promote the qualities of life that make Meredith a very special place. Thank you!

Respectfully,

John C. Edgar
Interim Town Manger/
Community Development Director

Brenda L. Vittner
Interim Town Manager/
Administrative Services Director

Report from the Board of Selectmen

To the Citizens of Meredith:

The five member Board of Selectmen has gained experience working as a team, expanded their knowledge of local and State governance, and has focused on working in a more positive, collaborative and responsible manner to meet the challenges and successes which support their objectives for the Town of Meredith. Bearing this in mind, 2008 has been a transition year from a stable economy to a more challenging economy with the prospect of continued economic downturn in the foreseeable future.

The year started off with major impacts from Mother Nature in that we experienced record snow fall amounts in late 2007 and early 2008 followed by major rains and flood damage in late summer. Our departments worked collaboratively in responding to these severe weather events and deserve much thanks and praise for their dedication to the public's well-being and protection. We extend a huge "thanks for a job well done" by all Meredith employees and to their families for their support, and commend them for their resourcefulness in adjusting to the resulting impacts on their staff, department resources and budgets!

Several highlights include the voter's approvals of the renovations & new construction of the downtown fire station. We are pleased that the project has come in within budget and look forward to attending an Open House in late spring. The Water System Advisory Committee has been diligently working under the guidance of Chairman David Thorpe and has made considerable progress in addressing our water system short and long term needs. With the support of the voters at Town Meeting, the tireless efforts of Conservation Commission members and the experienced staff at The Trust for Public Land, and the core Save Page Pond group of private citizen fundraisers and donors; Meredith has completed the recent acquisition of The Page Pond and Forest conservation property. This magnificent addition to the Town of Meredith and the masterful collaboration of so many individuals and entities towards attaining this goal cannot be overstated. Congratulations...Town of Meredith!

This year we have experienced several changes in our administrative team with the appointments of three new department heads. The Town Manager hired Ken Jones as our new Fire Chief to replace long-term retiring Chief Charles "Chuck" Palm in addition to Brian Carroll being hired as our new Water and Sewer Superintendent. The Library Board of Trustees hired Erin Apostolos as the new Library Director after the retirement of long-term Director Lydia Torr. Please welcome these new managers to the Town administrative team as collectively they bring considerable experience, new talents and perspective to their departments and the team.

The Board of Selectmen appointed Brenda Vittner, Director of Administrative Services and John Edgar, Community Development Director, to the position of interim Co-Town Managers with the October resignation of Town Manager Carol Granfield. The Board of Selectmen are grateful to Brenda and John for their dedication to the Town of Meredith and agreeing to act as interim Co-Town Managers and assisting the Board during this very important time of transition from one Town Manager to the next. Their working knowledge, well-earned respect and trust combined with their collective skills and managerial experience shall serve the Town well during this interim period. The Board is moving forward with their assistance with determining the process for replacement of the Town Manager. Thank you Brenda and John for your service and dedication to the Town of Meredith!

Report from the Selectmen continued...

The Board of Selectmen, the interim Co-Town Managers, department managers and Town staff have been largely focused on preparing the 2009 budget during the second half of 2008. The significant changes to the economic environment and the harsh realities continue to negatively impact our operating budget and further diminish revenues. The preliminary budget presented by the interim Co-Town Managers and Department Heads have appropriations further reduced as 2008 revenue sources were not realized and 2009 revenue projections become more uncertain. The Board of Selectmen has worked in a more consensus driven fashion in our 2009 budget deliberations starting with a level funded budget appropriations philosophy and migrating to 2% less than the current year due to the economic uncertainty ahead and anticipated revenues continuing to decline. This lead to additional 2009 appropriations budget cuts, selective revenue increases using existing trust funds and a couple of user-fee increases.

It is important to note that the Board of Selectmen reviewed and considered all aspects of our Town budget including projected 2009 expenditure appropriations, Town-wide tax base projections, unexpended general fund balance calculations, current trust & Expendable Trust Fund balances, current year excess/surplus appropriations, and projected non-property tax revenues during our deliberative budget sessions. There should be immediate advantages to the 2009 budget as presented to the voters, however, we must caution that some capital and operating expenses being deferred will have to be addressed in future Town budgets. The hope is that this will be when the local economy stabilizes or improves!

Again, in closing, we would like to thank all of our employees, volunteers, individuals and entities which have contributed to the continued success of Meredith for their efforts and service to our community.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meredith Board of Selectmen

Peter F. Brothers, Chairman

Miller C. Lovett, Vice-Chairman

Robert C. Flanders

Charles G. Palm

Colette Worsman

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2008 Meredith Town Warrant

State of New Hampshire

TO THE INHABITANTS OF MEREDITH QUALIFIED TO VOTE IN TOWN AFFAIRS:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Meredith Community Center, 1 Circle Drive, in said Town on the second Tuesday of March next March 11, 2008,

7:00 AM until 7:00 PM for the casting of ballots; and at 7:00 PM Wednesday, March 12, 2008, at the Inter-Lakes Junior/Senior High School gymnasium, 1 Laker Lane, in said Town to act on Articles 8 through 26.

BALLOT ARTICLES TO BE ACTED UPON:

ARTICLE 1

To bring your ballots for:

Selectman – One (1) for three (3) years

Charles Palm	661
James L Waldron	421

Town Clerk – One (1) for three (3) year

Kerri A Parker	955
----------------	-----

Treasurer – One (1) for three (3) years

Richard Pendergast	447
Louann Breen	488

Moderator – One (1) for two (2) years

Louis Kahn	403
Stephen Nedea	605

Trustee of Trust Funds - One (1) for three (3) years

Louann Breen	3
Richard Juve	3

Library Trustees – Two (2) for three (3) years

Laurie Brothers	638	Victoria A Carty	315
Betty Burns	295	Brownen Donnelly	247
		David L Carpentiere	261

Supervisor of the Checklist – One (1) for six (6) years

Anne Jollimore	938
----------------	-----

QUESTION 1

Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Inter-lakes school district on the second Tuesday of March?

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ARTICLE 2

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the planning board for the Meredith Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Insert a new paragraph W in Article III (General Provisions) of the ordinance to allow building permits to be issued for lots on islands served exclusively by boats without requiring that the landowner must either comply with the road access requirements of RSA 674:41, or must apply to the Zoning Board of Adjustment for relief from the road access requirements on a case by case basis?

YES 509 NO 540

ARTICLE 3

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the planning board for the Meredith Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amend Article VI (International Residential Code/Enforcement) of the ordinance to adopt the 2006 Edition of the International Residential Code as the town's basic building code in place of the 2000 Edition; also, to update an obsolete statutory reference in section A, and to delete section C of Article VI which is also obsolete due to a change in State law?

YES 814 NO 203

ARTICLE 4

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the planning board for the Meredith Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amend Articles III (General Provisions), Article IV, (Establishment of Districts and District Regulations) and Article VIII, (Definitions), to delete all provisions and references relating to cluster development, and add a new Article entitled "Conservation Subdivision Design Ordinance" to replace the deleted cluster provisions?

YES 733 NO 281

ARTICLE 5

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the planning board for the Meredith Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amend Article III (General Provisions), Section K, Waterfront Right-of-Way, Subsection 2-A, 1, to increase the shore frontage requirement for each additional right of access to a water body through or by means of waterfront land, from 25 feet per dwelling unit to 50 feet per dwelling unit?

YES 717 NO 320

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ARTICLE 6

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 5 as proposed by the planning board for the Meredith Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amend Article VII (Zoning Board of Adjustment), Section B (Special Exception- Specific), Subsections 1-a, 1-b and 1-d (Accessory Apartments) to permit accessory apartments in accessory structures as well as in principal residential structures, to revise the Special Exception criteria for accessory apartments, and to amend the definitions of "Accessory Apartment" and "Apartment" in Article VIII?

YES 696 NO 324

ARTICLE 7

Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB 2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Town of Meredith on the second Tuesday of March?"

(Petitioned by 25 or more registered voters or 2% of the registered voters in town, whichever is less)
(Passage requires an affirmative 3/5 majority ballot vote)

YES 616 NO 456
Article was defeated.

DELIBERATIVE SESSION

Wednesday - 3/12/2008 @ 7:00 pm @ Interlakes High School, 1 Laker Lane

Moderator Louis opened the 2008 Town Meeting at 7:20 pm with the pledge of allegiance. He then instructed the residents on the voting process and the use of the voter cards. Bond issues require a ballot vote and will be open for one hour. If the need arises for ballot votes on any of the other articles we will use the card with the article number on it. The hand out "Points to consider" will help speed up the moving along of each article, we will get into discussion and you can read them as we talk.

Moderator Kahn then introduced the Board of Selectmen Miller Lovett, Collet Worsman, Bob Flanders, Peter Brothers, and Frank Michel, who is going out of business this evening, Carol Granfield Town Manager, Town Council Tim Bates, Administrative Services Director Brenda Vittner and Paula Jones, the Town Clerk whose illustrious service is also ending this week. Continuing with the credits are the Supervisors of the Checklist Cookie Boulanger, Rhetta Colon and Anne Jollimore, Deputy Town Clerk Kerri Parker, Ballot Clerks Dennis Boulanger, Kay Kennelly, Christine Taggett and Dawn Dever.

Moderator Kahn gave the results of the Town Election: The article proposing the adoption by the Town of SB2 received a vote 57.5% and therefore was not adopted because 60% was required. The question proposing the adoption of SB2 by the Inter-lakes School District received a vote of 49.4%, among the three towns, and it also failed. Chuck Palm was elected to a three year term as Selectman, Kerri Parker was elected Town Clerk, Anne Jollimore as Supervisor of the Checklist, Louann Breen as Treasurer, Laurie Brothers and Vicki Carty as Library Trustees, Stephen Nedeau as Moderator and Louann Breen and Richard Juve each received three write in votes as Trustee of the Trust Funds and they can work it out. Of the five Zoning Articles, all passed except Article 2 regarding Islands without roads. Carol Granfield presented Paula Jones with a retirement plaque. Paula expressed her thanks to the Town of Meredith residents as it has been her honor to have worked for and taken care of all of them.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Paula emphasized the need to know your candidates before voting for them because they are representing all of us. Carol then turned to Peter Brothers to make a presentation of a chair to Frank Michel for his dedicated service as a Select board member. Frank expressed his thanks and honor to have worked in the town over the last 6 years, a town that he respects and loves. He thanked his family for their sacrifice upon his endeavor into public service. He also thanked the present Board, the Town Manager, the Department heads and the employees. He wished Chuck and the new Board good luck.

Moderator Kahn said that he hasn't had the kind of service to the town that Frank or Paula have had because he is passing from the scene. He then asked how many would like to have the Town Meeting on a Saturday morning. By a show of voter cards, the majority likes the Wednesday evening session.

ARTICLE 8

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate an amount not to exceed the sum of Two Million, Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000.00) (gross budget) for the purpose of constructing an addition to and refurbishing the Downtown Fire Station, and to authorize the issuance of not more than Two Million, Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000.00) of bonds or notes for this purpose in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act, Chapter 33, provided that the total amount of bonds or notes to be issued shall be reduced by the amount of grants-in-aid or contributions from other sources that are pledged or received for this purpose prior to the issuance of the bonds or notes. Further to authorize the Town Treasurer to make temporary borrowings in accordance with the provisions of said RSA Chapter 33 in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds of said bonds or notes, and to determine the term and interest rate, method and manner of sale of such bonds, notes, and temporary borrowings, as the Town Treasurer shall deem to be in the best interest of the Town. Finally, to authorize the Selectmen and Town Manager to apply for, accept, and expend any grants-in-aid or contributions that may be available for this project.

(Passage requires an affirmative two-thirds ballot vote)
(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

Motion by Frank Michel and seconded by Peter Brothers to adopt Article 8 as proposed.

Frank Michel then made a motion that the dollar amounts in Article 8 be reduced from \$2,500,000.00 to \$2,292,882.00 Peter Brothers seconded the motion.

Moderator Kahn then asked the residents, by a show of voter cards, to vote on the amendment to reduce the amount as proposed. Vote Carried.

Moderator Kahn then turned the mike over to Chuck Palm. Chuck then thanked all who voted for him. He proceeded to thank the Building Advisory Committee on the Fire Station, recognizing: Wayne Bredvik, Peter Brothers, Jason Cornelissen, Bob Flanders, Carol Granfield, Bud Larrabee, Steve Nedeau, Dave Parker, Ann Sprague and Dave and Karen Sticht. This committee has been discussing various points of the building program since 2006.

Chuck then went through a power point presentation, stressing the objective to renovate the fire facility to meet all the present day and future needs of the fire service for the Town of Meredith and properly housing our apparatus and our volunteer staff. Chuck then asked Andre Kloetz to speak. Andre emphasized the over 100 year history of all volunteer fire department and stressed that it's what they want to continue to do that. The age of those volunteers is rising and we need to get younger volunteers involved. One of the ways to do this is through the Technical College in Laconia which has a very good Fire Science Program. Students come to that school already certified as state fire fighters but looking to get college degrees. These students are looking for a place to live and these dormitories will provide that space. These students will receive the mentoring that our very veteran department can give them and in exchange they will serve us as our young front line volunteers. Chuck continued with his explanation and visual presentation of the New Fire Station.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Moderator Kahn then opened the floor for discussion. Dona Murray asked about the operating costs and Chuck responded that the maintenance is done internally and with the new facility the cost may be a little more but it will be much more cost efficient because of the complete retro energy fit to the building as part of the construction package.

There was no further discussion and the vote opened at 8:00 for one hour.

YES 285 NO 73 Article 8 passed.

ARTICLE 9

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate an amount not to exceed the sum of Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000.00) for the purpose of purchasing certain real estate to be held by the Town as Conservation Land under the management of the Town's Conservation Commission pursuant to RSA 36-A. Specifically, the property to be purchased is known as the Page Pond Project properties, identified by the Town as Tax Map S03, Lot 6 and Tax Map S04, Lots 1, 3, 6. Further, to authorize the issuance of not more than Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000.00) of bonds or notes for this purpose in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act, Chapter 33, provided that the total amount of bonds or notes to be issued shall be reduced by the amount of grants-in-aid or contributions from other sources that are pledged or received for this purpose prior to the issuance of the bonds or notes. Further to authorize the Town Treasurer to make temporary borrowings in accordance with the provisions of said RSA Chapter 33 in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds of said bonds or notes, and to determine the term and interest rate, method and manner of sale of such bonds, notes, and temporary borrowings, as the Town Treasurer shall deem to be in the best interest of the Town. Finally, to authorize the Selectmen and Town Manager to apply for, accept, and expend any grants-in-aid or contributions that may be available for this project.

(Passage requires an affirmative two-thirds ballot vote)
(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

Motion by Frank Michel and seconded by Colette Worsman to adopt Article 9 as proposed. At this time John McFarland, Chairman of the Conservation Commission, introduced Ralph Pisapia who is the Treasurer of the Conservation Commission. Ralph explained why Page Pond is as important to the town as being one of the most biologically diverse areas in this community, containing half of our prime wetlands that have been designated by the state, as it includes very high value for migratory birds, shore birds, and fishery, as we will see a number of species out there. Page Pond is off of Quarry Road which is off of Route 25, it is a 567 acre parcel unfragmented which from a biological perspective is very important and one of the reasons that it has been a top priority for the town. This area has the capability of supporting quite a few species, such as moose, deer, coyote, fox, fisher, mink and otter as well as 55 species of songbirds in addition to red tail hawks, bard owls, great horned owls, and broad winged hawks. Shore birds that include killdeer, sandpipers, snipe and a warm water fishery with yellow perch, and small mouth bass also use the area. In 1999 inventory of visual resources in town indicated that Page Brook wetlands are a key visual attribute that helps to define that character of this community. Also the 2002 master plan for Meredith listed Page Pond as a priority area for preservation and the Lakes Region Planning Commission has it also listed as a major area for protection as well. There is one cultural site that is located there as well which an old sawmill site on the property and there is the old dam that still remains and is the head waters of Page Brook, that eventually winds through about two miles down to fish cove and into the big lake. The land will be used like much of the other conservation land in Town allowing some hunting, fishing, hiking, and other soft outdoor recreational activities.

What is the alternative to conservation of this land? The current owners of this land is the Wilds Christian Association headquartered in North Carolina, which had proposed to construct a youth camp on this site which they did have almost all of their permits related to this but have decided, on their own, that they will not pursue the youth camp.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

They decided to put the property on the Market and some developers have been interested but the Conservation Commission asked if we could intervene and purchase it for the Town since it has been such a high priority and they have allowed us to make an offer.

The Town Planning Department has done a build out analysis and they project that the property could support up to 188 dwellings. Imagine what 188 dwellings on that site might do to the infrastructure of the Town. The Conservation Commission has decided to partner with the Trust for Public Land (TPL), which is a private conservation group that is well respected throughout the nation and they have been the intermediary with the land owners. There is also a number of Private Meredith citizens forming a leadership committee to help raise about 56% of the funds that are needed for this project through private sources. In addition the Town has pursued a funding source from the State through LCHIP. Another thing that is going for us is that the site has a number of private property owners around it and one of them has 53 acres that has stated that he is willing to give the Town a Conservation Easement free of charge on his 53 acres preserving it in perpetuity for the use of conservation if the Town acquires this property.

Moderator Kahn opened up the floor for discussion: Pat Mack asked about the \$ 50,000 that you will not be asking for from now on, in Article 19 there is \$50,000 for Open Space and \$20,780 in Article 15 for Open Space Conservation, could you clarify for me how you won't be asking for that money if you are putting it in another article? Ralph explained that the closing will not take place until 2009 so that \$400,000 will not have an impact on the 2008 tax rate. We are asking for the \$ 50,000 for 2008 and we won't ask for it thereafter. Pat went on to ask about the partnership with the Trust for Public Land, do they contribute money to this land as well? What is their interest? Ralph explained that they are the intermediary they are doing the negotiating they did the environmental assessment for us and they have legal fees. They have been able to communicate more effectively with the current owners and have also helped with the fundraising efforts which enable us to only ask the Town to have to come up with the \$400,000 for a 2.5 million dollar property. Pat went on to ask who pays the taxes and how much do they pay right now on the taxes? Ralph answered that he believed that the Church group, that owns the property, has it in current use and they do not pay property taxes right now and when the Town buys the property it will become conservation land instead of being in Current Use.

Terry Kennedy stated that he was new to Town but that this item seems to be quite a good deal considering the location and the fact that these types of bargains are very difficult to come by and one should not pass up this opportunity. Pam Bliss stated that she is concerned that although it does seem like a very good deal, we were told that if we built a new Police Station we would sell the old Police Station and the Annex. What is the guarantee that they will hold to the \$50,000 until this bond is paid? Mr. Pisapia stated that we are committed not to. Selectmen Michel stated that the current board is cognizant of it and the Pledge made by the Conservation Commission, however, the will of the People could change it. I feel that it would behoove the people of the Town to hear from Mr. Roger Cruzman who is from the Trust for Public Land. We are trying to build momentum and if we can pledge the \$ 400,000 then the private donors will need to come to the table. We have this opportunity today and it may not be here tomorrow and it is not to be a threat just reality that it is highly developable and if we want to be a player in this type of market where people tend to buy and bank land. We believe it is in the best interest of the Town. I feel that it would be worth to hear from Mr. Cruzman. Mr. Cruzman stated that he is not a resident of the Town nor the State of NH, he works for the Trust for Public Land which is a non-profit national group and they have been conserving land across the country since 1972 and have conserved well in excess of 2 million acres of land from Alaska to Hawaii, to Puerto Rico to the coast of Maine.

There is a staff of 450 people across the country made up of mainly fundraising people to real estate people, legal people and natural resource people. What we do is work in partnership with willing sellers, private landowners willing to convey ownership of their property at a fair market value and public agencies such as municipalities, state agencies, and federal agencies, such as the White Mountain National Forest in helping to transfer the ownership of the land from private individuals into permanent conservation status with those public agencies.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This land was identified by your conservation commission and they approached us for help to conserve this property for basically four purposes, wildlife habitat protection, water quality watershed protection, public low impact recreation, and sustainable timber harvesting and timber management. Our company helped with the LCHIP which is the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program which is the State grant program, and work with the fundraising committee. John Hodson stated that a little over 20 years ago the Town was considering purchasing an easement from the Moulton Farm which was passed and went through. I did an economic analysis of the costs for the taxes and services assuming that the property was developed. It came out that the Town would be saving 60,000 over the gain in the property tax and vehicle tax. I would suspect that with the Moulton Farm not being developed would be saving us 100,000 a year now with the inflation. I think you would find that a similar type of savings would occur and we would continue to have that savings if that property is not developed.

Bill Bayard stated that the CIP committee did recommend it, and being on the Planning commission he had an opportunity to walk the property and view it and it is a beautiful piece of property and a good deal for the Town. As long as I am on the CIP committee I will hold the commission to their word of not asking for the \$50,000 each year they still will get the Current Use money that is earmarked for them. Bob Baldizar congratulated the committee on their presentation and efforts but questioned if the dam on the property will be needed to be maintained and who would be responsible to maintain it? John Sherman explained that the dam existed over 100 years ago and the water now runs freely and would not need to be maintained. Bob Ambrose agreed that this property should be protected and under this scenario it makes a lot of sense. My concern is about the long term debt, and wondered how that Current Use Change Tax excess could be used to offset the debt. Frank Michel explained that he knows personally that there would be an excess this year and if he were on the Board he would be more than happy to earmark the excess. Peter Brothers stated that in the early eighties in the Town's master plan, Page Brook was identified as a prime piece of property. It often hurts to invest in conservation property up front but in the long run it makes a lot of sense and we will be able to preserve Meredith. And not only is the committee agreeing to the commitment to not ask for the money until the bond is paid and I as a member of this Select board will hold them to it. If there is anything that we can do to accelerate paying off the debt and providing the conservation commission with the next opportunity it would be in our best interest to use surplus funds to retire that debt. Bob Ambrose then moved that any current use change tax money during the life of the bond, that is available, be used to pay down that bond until it is paid off. Tim Bates, Town Council, explained that we can't bind future Town meetings in this way. What could be done is any surplus in the Land Use Change Tax could be brought up each year to the Town meetings, and if they don't then that would revert to the General fund and the State RSA states that it can be done for the first \$ 50,000 and not for any excess. Bob Flanders stated that he would be in favor of using any of the excess Land Use Change tax for paying off the bond. Sandy Mucci spoke to the value of this property for this Town. And even though it is often difficult to pay the property taxes some years at least we can do a small part for the community.

Dave Kuether stated that looking at the map Page Brook is a major watershed wetland area and the heart of the lakes region with Lake Winnipesaukee being the Queen mother and it is not the cleanest lake in the state any longer. We destroy that wetlands, we destroy that lake, and we destroy this Town. It is our time to conserve what we know is Meredith now and forever more. This is an opportunity we will not see again for goodness sake lets take advantage of it. Colette Worsman spoke to both Pam Bliss and Bob Ambrose stating that she has already started her notes for next years budget and will do her best to secure the land use change tax excess of \$50,000 to pay that off. Miller Lovett stated that we could not secure this land several years ago and we now have the opportunity to secure it and hope that the voters agree urging them to vote for it. The idea of paying the debt down sooner is a very good idea with the Land Use Change Tax. Dan Cornelisson questioned if snowmobiling would be allowed on that property.

Ralph stated that on designated trails it would be allowed. Bob Konchak questioned if the LCHIP money is a guarantee as the State is having their own financial issues. Ralph stated that it is a commitment. Peter Foster questioned the private funding if there is enough time to get that money raised or do we run the risk of not raising it and loosing the opportunity to purchase that land. Carol Gerken spoke about the leadership committee working closely with the TPL to identify a very large pool of potential large dollar figure donors.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

They are in the process of cultivating donors and putting together grant proposals and they are convinced they will be able to fund the project from private donors. Peter Brothers spoke again that the purpose is to get momentum from the Town to get the project started and then the private fundraising will have the momentum it needs to get moving. No further discussion.

Moderator Kahn called the question by ballot voting at 9:10pm Open for 1 hour.

Yes 304 No 54 Article 9 passed.

ARTICLE 10

To see if the Town will vote to designate Chase Road in the Town of Meredith as a Scenic Road under the authority of RSA 231:157. Chase Road is located within the town of Meredith.

(Petitioned by 10 or more Registered Voters or abutters)

Colette Worsman moved to adopt Article 10 as read, seconded by Miller Lovett

Rick Demark stated that he was the originator of this Article and is asking that we defeat it as this is not the right time for the Road to be designated a Scenic Road. David Dath spoke that the reason the second Article was brought forth was to show that there was opposition to the original petition.

ARTICLE 11

We the undersigned do hereby petition under the authority granted to us under NH Law, OPPOSE the designation of Chase Road as a "Scenic Road" until such time that all planned upgrades, repairs and improvements have been completed to ensure the public safety of all who use the road.

(Petitioned by 25 or more Registered Voters)

Miller Lovett moved to adopt Article 11 as proposed seconded by Robert Flanders.

Moderator called for the Vote on Article 10 and by a show of voter cards Article 10 was defeated.

Moderator then called for the Vote on Article 11 and by a show of voter cards Article 11 passed.

ARTICLE 12

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the elected office of Town Treasurer and authorize the appointment of the Town Treasurer upon recommendation of the Town Manager with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, all pursuant to RSA 41:26-e. If this article is adopted, the elected town treasurer shall continue to hold office until the annual Town election in March, 2009, at which time the elected office will terminate as provided by RSA 669:17-d.

Robert Flanders moved to adopt Article 12 as proposed, seconded by Frank Michel.

Richard Juve spoke that he is generally opposed to any motion that the person in charge of finances, which would be the Town Manager, designates the Treasurer of her choice and asked that the duties of the Town Treasurer be defined. Brenda Vittner explained that the Town Treasurer oversees the safeguard of the Town's assets and works with the Administrative Services department and our department works for the Town Manager.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Normally they come in and review all of the manifests and our cash books to be sure that we are doing what we are supposed to do. Then we are audited by our external auditors. The purpose for this Article is that there are a number of issues that are starting to come up where all of our elected officials are having more oversight by the auditing standards boards and as such looking at the qualifications for the job. A lot of times you are finding folks that may or may not have financial background that are the Town Treasurers. It is important that the Town have the right people in the right places and like other boards you have an application and then go before the Select board for approval. And as we continue to grow we need to be sure that the right people are in the right positions. Terry Kennedy asked what the cost would be for the appointed verses the elected. Brenda explained that they get a stipend and it is \$850 per year with taxes taken out, but no benefits go along with this position. Louann Breen asked if this is just a safeguard or something that you plan to implement and stated that she does not agree with it because she feels that the Townspeople should have a right to elect the positions as they do the Selectmen. Richard Gerken stated that he is generally in favor of elections but he understands some of these complexities and feels that it would be wise in this day and age to have the person's qualifications reviewed by the Board of Selectmen. Richard Juve stated that although he respects Mr. Gerken's opinion, it appears to him that the public, the citizens of this Town, the citizens of America should be able to judge who is qualified for this position, and recommends that they publish any individual's qualifications and they can have a hearing before this public hearing and they can decide if this individual has the qualifications for the job. But by exercising the Town Manager's initiative that offers the Selectmen the opportunity to say yea or nay based upon a Town Managers opinion. I don't like it, if one has in an office one person doing accounts payable and the same person doing payroll. You are co-locating the same individual on the same computer system and in this particular instance; I recommend that the individual be voted on by the public. Harry Welch stated that he is not in favor of appointing this position.

Moderator Kahn called for the Vote on Article 12 and by a show of voter cards the Article was defeated.

ARTICLE 13

To see if the Town will vote to approve the following resolution to be forwarded to our State Representatives, our State Senator and our Governor:

Resolved: We the Citizens of Meredith, NH believe in a New Hampshire that is just and fair. The property tax has become unjust and unfair. State leaders who take a pledge for no new taxes perpetuate higher and higher property taxes. We call on our State Representatives, our State Senator and our Governor to reject the "Pledge", have an open discussion covering all options, and adopt a revenue system that lowers property taxes.

(Petitioned by 25 or more registered voters or
2% of the registered voters in town, whichever is less)

Frank Michel moved to adopt Article 13 as proposed, seconded by Peter Brothers.

John Rogers stated that he was contacted by the members of the coalition and was the one who collected the signatures and it was before several Towns last year with 12 voting to support and this year it is in front of 87 or 88 separate towns in the state and yesterday 31 Towns voted in favor of this article. He urges people to read the article carefully and you'll see it is a very small step towards dealing with a very difficult issue, namely the structure of revenue for how we pay for all of our State Government. Revenue. How we pay for our State Government is currently 60.3% funded by the property tax. The Parties that bear the burdens of property tax will continue to suffer and there are such parties who are losing their homes or being forced to abandon them or sell them. You can find them on the website of the organization. We need to look at and become more educated in how we pay for our government and where the money is coming from and who bears the burdens.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Jack Carty spoke against this Article stating, in this forum we can control the Property tax and not in Concord and suggests keeping the system as it exists. William Bayard seconded what Jack said. Richard Gerken also stated that he seconds his other two colleagues, and continued to state that he opposes this is political statement and it should be brought to the legislature, not to this gathering. This religious group and broad based tax people can go take it to their legislatures. How can you define what is a fair tax, levying new taxes, does not guarantee the reduction on the other taxes. Once you give them the Pandora's Box as Jack Carty states, they will open it and they will continue to increase it. Maine and Vermont already have an income tax, a sales tax, and have higher property taxes than we have in Meredith. So lets defeat it on two reasons, one it is political and has no business being in this forum, and secondly, because it is wrong.

The NH advantage is people come here because they want to get away from everyone telling them how to run their lives. Richard Juve stated that he also lived in NJ and left because of the taxes. Taxes were climbing and they asked for income taxes in exchange for a rebate, the property taxes continued to increase, then they asked for an increase on the sales taxes, NJ is one of the highest taxed states and as much as I don't like property taxes, I much rather be able to have the ability to debate them in this type of forum.

Mike Brien stated that being from Massachusetts and the idea of options has always been a delightful one for him and coming to Town meeting and offering this option of reconsideration or a willingness to look at other options is a wonderful idea and supports this article just for this.

Moderator Kahn called for the vote and by a show of voter cards the Article 13 has been defeated.

ARTICLE 14

To see if the Town will adopt the provisions of RSA 31:95-c to restrict 100% of the revenue from the use of the Town's boat launch at Shep Brown's Boat Basin to expenditures for the purpose of repairs or improvements to the boat launch, or to Town owned facilities at the site of the boat launch such as municipal parking, bathrooms, or other related facilities? Such revenue and expenditures shall be accounted for in a special revenue fund to be known as the Town Boat Launch Facilities Fund, separate from the general fund. Any surplus in said fund shall not be deemed part of the general fund accumulated surplus and shall be expended only after a vote of the town meeting to appropriate a specific amount from said fund for a specific purpose related to the purpose of the fund.

Peter Brothers moved to adopt Article 14 as proposed, seconded by Colette Worsman.

Dona Murray asked if this is forever or will there be an end to this. Carol Granfield stated that it would take substantial time for the fund to build and any expenditure would have to come back to Town meeting to be voted on. Eventually, if everything is completed, then the Town Meeting could change the funds to expend the funds elsewhere. Pat Mack asked why the Town is setting this up for just this particular spot when everything else we take care of is a whole. Carol Granfield answered that this particular location was determined because it was a joint venture; Shep Brown's offered to collect the funds free of charge which allowed the Police cadet the opportunity to be located in another area. The idea was that any monies collected there would improve the public facilities there. Tom Boriso asked, in the previous years, didn't we collect money at the Town Docks and why are we not collecting them there? Carol Granfield answered that we are collecting at the Town Docks. The funds for the Town Docks are going into the General fund and not for a specific fund. Tom asked that in other words we are splitting these funds into two different funds. Plyllis Hamblet spoke in favor of this Article because a lot of Island people who pay a lot of tax money to this town, use those public facilities at Brown's and a lot of them have to park there when they go into town. They really need that facility. Warren Clark stated that the Town has intermittently had someone there at Shep Brown's all the time and they were willing to collect the money as long as the money would be used to improve the public facilities there. Sandra Mucci asked, ten years from now if there is \$50,000 sitting in that pot and we decide as a Town that there is something fabulous there already, does that mean we can't use it somewhere else in Town? Frank Michel and Carol Granfield answered that we could discontinue the funds.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Chuck Lowth asked if there were any liability issues by partnering with Shep Brown's, to which Carol Granfield answered that there is none. We checked that out before the venture was agreed upon.

Moderator Kahn called the vote and by a show of voter cards Article 14 passed.

ARTICLE 15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the balance available in the Land Use Change Tax Fund (Fund #14) for 2007 in the amount of Twenty Thousand, Seven Hundred and Eighty Dollars (\$ 20,780.00) and to place that sum in the Open Space/Conservation Expendable Trust Fund previously established.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

Colette Worsman moved that we adopt Article 15 as proposed, seconded by Miller Lovett seconded the motion

Moderator Kahn called the vote and by a show of voter cards Article 15 passed.

ARTICLE 16

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) for the capital roadway project designated as Batchelder Hill Road.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

Miller Lovett moved to adopt Article 16 as proposed, seconded by Robert Flanders

Frank Michel stated that this has been in the pipeline for awhile and has been put off. Mike Faller stated that this was in the pipeline from 1999 and was bumped from 2006 to 2008. Due to the severe winter that we have and the fact that the selectmen had to cut \$50,000 from the road budget which will be an impact to everyone sitting here at town meeting. He really supports this article. It is a section of road that is approximately 5500 feet that is gravel and it is being utilized quite a bit since DM management moved over to Tilton. The road sees between 300-500 cars per day. The ongoing upkeep of this road is considerable, and the recommendation is that any road that sees more than 100 cars per day, should be paved. Chris Mega questioned what the actual impact per thousand would be. Brenda stated that she would do the best she could to give the information on the \$250,000 for the fire station would be .13 cents per thousand dollars of valuation for that one project for that one year. As each Article comes up I could tell you what the impact will be. Dona Murray applauded the Public Works department for their efforts in maintaining the roads as well as they are able to. She went on to ask where the project will end. Mike explained that, it is the intention to take both ends of the pavement and connect them.

Moderator Kahn called for the vote and by a show of voter cards Article 16 was passed.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ARTICLE 17

To see if the Town will vote to create an Expendable Trust Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, to be known as the Main Street Rehab Fund, for the purpose of rehabilitation, construction, and improvements to the Class V town road known as Main Street, and to appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) toward this purpose from the General Fund and to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-2)

Robert Flanders moved to adopt Article 17 as proposed, seconded by Frank Michel.

Frank Michel explained that this is a savings account that will work like an expendable trust fund in order to do these repairs from a fund rather than piecemealing it for each project, and this is just the beginning step of many steps, to establish this in an efficient coordinated manner. Pat Mack asked if this would be like the bundled project. And the answer by Frank Michel stated that yes but that they may be phased, combined projects. She further asked if the bundled project proved to be beneficial. To which she was told yes it did. Charles Chatterton suggested that they be careful of the level of the roads because due to the newest project, you now have to swim to the Post Office. Sandra Mucci asked if the 2 Selectmen, that did not recommend it, would explain why. Colette Worsman said that it was not that she did not feel that the project was not needed, just that she did not want to bring it this year when there was already enough going on. Frank Michel stated that he was the other selectman that was in the minority with Colette.

Lars Anderson asked why the general taxpayers are subjected to paying for something that they don't even use; shouldn't the Water/Sewer payments pay for the engineering and rebuilding costs? Frank addressed the question stating that it could but that this is also preplanning for a road that is located in downtown which benefits all residents in the Town by having a downtown that is viable. The possibility of having funds come from the Water/Sewer payments is ongoing and will be looked at.

Moderator Kahn called for the vote and by a show of voter cards Article 17 was passed.

ARTICLE 18

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) to be added to the Fire Department Vehicle Replacement Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

Frank Michel moved to adopt Article 18 as proposed, seconded by Peter Brothers.

Frank Michel stated that this is, as Chief Palm stated previously, enabling us to order a ladder truck for the Downtown Station within the next 6-8 months, which would be a benefit to pay cash for and not have to special order a size with the renovation of the Downtown Station. This is the last of the vehicles that we foresee to be needed for the Fire Department. Dave Kuether asked if we would get a deal on the this truck because it doesn't have to be shortened, to which the answer was, yes, we will be able to order a stock truck and if you have cash upfront then you save on the order and purchase. Chuck Palm answered that the difference between the special order and the off the showroom vehicle is about \$125,000 and \$135,000. The savings, for being able to pay in full at the time of the order, would be \$30,000. The other option for another savings would be dealing with manufacturers that have demo trucks available that generally have about 5,000 miles on it with the original warranties that would save about \$100,000 and that is also an advantage to have all the bugs worked out beforehand.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Pam Bliss mentioned that as a former member of the planning board and CIP committee, this is one of the true expendable trust funds that have been carried through in a large amount without having a bond. She would like the CIP to get back to that and if you say you are going to spend a certain amount of money, keep it in the ETFs and don't come to Town meeting to bond it out, the money saved from the ETF has gone into soft costs. I would like to see what happened with the Fire Depts. ETF that it goes into that account like it is supposed to.

Moderator Kahn called for the vote and with a show of voter cards Article 18 passed.

ARTICLE 19

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to be added to the Open Space/Conservation Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Board of Selectmen are agents to expend.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

Peter Brothers moved to adopt Article 19 as proposed, seconded by Colette Worsman.
Moderator Kahn called for the vote and with a show of voter cards Article 19 passed.

ARTICLE 20

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to be added to the Water Improvements Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Board of Selectmen are agents to expend.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

Colette Worsman moved to adopt Article 20 as proposed, seconded by Miller Lovett.

Jack Carty spoke about the CIP advisory committee he was involved in. Last spring they met with the water department and they made recommendations and shortly after they adjourned for the summer, the Town was hit with Water restrictions. He is under the impression that there is a new committee that is going to study this and he feels that the Town does not have a very clear picture of what the status of our water system is and what is needed to repair it, exactly where are we going with it. Questioning, if we are changing disinfection systems due to regulations by the EPA. I do not feel that at this particular time we need to set aside this money now, not knowing exactly what is or isn't needed.

William Bayard respectfully disagreed with Mr. Carty but feels that the money, which will be needed, is huge. There is some major questions as to how this whole thing will be funded and what the Town is looking for the Water Department to do. There are a lot of issues that have been put into the CIP committee, and some have been dropped out due to the number of items needed. There will be considerable amount of money needed to maintain what we have, let alone some of the improvements that are probably needed. The feeling of the committee was that money should be set aside to help with the tax burden or the burden on the water department. Robert Kennelly asked how does this equate to the 60 40 operation that the Town is going with the Water/Sewer for the people like us that don't get any of these benefits for the Water/Sewer.

Frank Michel clarified that there is already an ETF for the disinfection change. He went on to explain that right now there is a partnership between the users and the general populous with respect to how we fund things.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

We need the water and fire protection downtown in order to create an intangible base. So this is the savings account that has been started for the general public's portion.

There are two ways that funds are collected water and sewer bills. Approximately \$400,000 in the sewer side and there is less in the water side due to some of the projects of the water issues which is around \$100,000. Whatever is going to be done is going to cost more than \$50,000 together with the \$77,000 balance so it is prudent, to fund something that we know we are going to spend in the future which is critical to our wellbeing in the Town.

As to who is paying what share, there will have to be some continued dialogue but the essence of this is to add to this savings account to update an antiquated system. Pat Mack also read the reports on the water system and would like to know how much we have already paid for these consultants to look at our water system, tell us what we need to improve, what the priorities have to be. It seems forming another committee to look at something we have already looked at, at least 3 or 4 times, we don't seem to be progressing at all.

Peter Brothers explained that we had a situation last summer, and he does agree that there were some issues and some data that the CIP had through October, but in the meantime we have retained Ray Korber Associates and they have made some improvements on everything from calibrations to instruments to detection. We have tightened up and have made progress and the other thing was that we had a very substantial break under Route 104 which had to be replaced which has now been replaced. The hard part is trying to leave some reasonable passage of time and see what the results give us in terms of additional water capacity and make sure that it is a base number that we can rely on. We have made progress and the hope is that this committee will see some fairly large magnitude of projects that are going to be dealt with and that the dollars that are anticipated will be quite large.

We are looking to establish that committee not only to assist us but also to work with the Select board to find viable solutions and set a priority to some of those events and concentrate on what areas that we need to improve and get the best results, with the long term objective of getting a good solid handle on our water and sewer. It is a major undertaking and we are hoping that this committee, which will be comprised of a lot of citizens and individuals, are going to be able to dedicate some additional time and resources, beyond what the Select board can do, to assist us in that venture. Pat Mack asked what the Ray Korber company is doing different than the other company SEA? Can someone tell me what we paid, because it seems that we have paid two companies to do the same thing? How much have we spent to date on that?

Peter Brothers answered that there are several different events that are taking place; one is that we have used the SEA associates to do a water system analysis back in 2004 then the sewer piece was commissioned 2006 which was recently released to us. The situation with Ray Korber was to deal with the immediacy of the issue with the broken main and then as a result of that, trying to improve operations at the water treatment plant to stabilize and improve our water capacity. So it is really 3 different issues two were studies to see where we needed to go in the terms of both water and sewer systems in the future.

Pat Mack stated that she was just looking for clarification that we were looking at two different things and not hiring two different companies to look at the same thing. Richard Juve asked that question as well and the figure given to me Pat was \$ 21,000 in consulting fees, is that correct Mrs. Granfield? Carol Granfield answered that was on the recent studies.

Moderator called for the vote, and with a show of voter cards Article 20 passed .

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ARTICLE 21

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000.00) to be added to the Waterfront Infrastructure Trust previously established. The Board of Selectmen are agents to expend.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

Miller Lovett moved that the town adopt Article 21 as proposed, seconded by Robert Flanders.

Moderator Kahn called the vote and with a show of voter cards Article 21 passed.

ARTICLE 22

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) to be added to the Solid Waste Trailer Replacement Fund Trust Fund previously established. The Board of Selectmen are agents to expend.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

Robert Flanders moved to adopt Article 22 as proposed, seconded by Frank Michel.

Moderator Kahn called the vote and with a show of voter cards Article 22 passed.

ARTICLE 23

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) to be added to the Employee Benefits Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Board of Selectmen are agents to expend.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

Colette Worsman moved to adopt Article 23 as proposed, seconded by Miller Lovett.

Moderator Kahn called the vote and with a show of voter cards Article 23 passed.

ARTICLE 24

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000.00) for the water project designated at the Prescott Park/Circle Drive Water Loop. This is the second year of a two-year project. These funds are non-lapsing appropriations until December 31, 2009 or project completion.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-2)

Miller Lovett moved to adopt Article 24 as proposed, seconded by Robert Flanders.

Chris Mega respectfully submits that he does not know what the tax impact of any one of these Articles since 16.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Louann Breen asked what the second phase of this water project will be. Frank Michel answered that the wisdom of the board was to split this project in half. Vague scenario would be to eliminate any blow offs as possible and the blow offs are where you have one line terminating and not circulating. So if you were to go out to Boynton Road to have healthy potable water you turn on the spigot and let our manufactured retail water go into the ground. This is one of the projects, if we had a savings account, we would be able to split with the water fund and fund these on an even keel basis.

This is one that as a board, we decided to get our water system under wraps, education, conservation, leak detection, reduce blow offs, because we are putting retail water back into the ground so we can supply folks at the end of the line with potable water. So the wisdom is that if you do a loop and there is something called redundancy, that's when you make a loop back into the system, you can cut off blow offs. Colette and I voted against this because we dovetailed this with the workforce housing that was being developed at the time and Colette and I said that if we are doing a loop and we are doing a project, is the project doing part of the loop and do we have potential cost savings and the answer is the loop and the project do not have any cost savings. That is an illustration of capital improvements that are being paid in today's tax dollars without putting away for savings.

Moderator Kahn called the vote and with a show of voter cards Article 24 passed.

ARTICLE 25

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000.00) to improve various town roads that are eligible for 2 to 1 matching funds from the State Aid Reconstruction Program, contingent upon the receipt of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) of that amount from the State, with the balance of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to be raised by taxation.

Robert Flanders moved to adopt Article 25 as proposed, seconded by Frank Michel

Moderator Kahn called for the vote and with a show of voter cards, Article 25 passed.

ARTICLE 26

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twelve Million, Seventy One Thousand, Four Hundred Fifty Seven Dollars and twenty three cents, (\$ 12,071,457.23) for the necessary operational expenses of the Town for the ensuing year's budget. This amount does not include amounts appropriated under the prior articles.

Frank Michel moved to adopt Article 26 as proposed, seconded by Peter Brothers

Miller Lovett moved to amend Article 26 to reduce the amount by \$183,478.76 from \$12,071,457.23 to the new amount \$11,887,978.47 and that the reduction be applied to the selectmen's operating budget, amendment was seconded by Colette Worsman.

Pam Bliss stated that in reading the newspapers and all the articles, I think the Town of Meredith needs to give Mrs. Worsman and Mr. Lovett credit for trying. The other three selectmen have shut them down and this may not be the place to add the amendment but they have tried every other avenue and have been shut down so I say we pass this amendment.

Keith True asked for direction on point of order for another amendment that is sitting in the crowd, to increase the current budget. Moderator Kahn asked for Keith to explain what his amendment would be and then he would make a judgment as to how to proceed.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Keith explained that it was an amendment in the amount of a \$153,000 increase to cover the cost of a 3% COLA for all the employees it doesn't include the health benefits but it does cover the retirement, FICA and Medicare which the town is required to pay. This will be the first year that I remember, although it was pointed out to me that there was one year in the last 17 years, that the Town did not receive a COLA. The national average for inflation is 4.5%. In 2007 NH and Maine had an inflation rate of 6.1%. There was a recent survey done and at best we came out average with the exception of 2 positions were overpaid and two were under paid but at best we were average with regards to our benefit including health, dental, time off and salaries. If we don't receive a COLA this year, with the inflation at the rate it is at, we will be that much further behind next year and you get what you pay for. If you want an average employee then you pay average salary we are average as of 2007. In 2008 we are paying an increase from 5-11% in the medical which we aren't concerned about because we all have families that use the medical and we are willing to pay that. We are taking home less money each week but we still have the same expenses as everyone else. I was not able to attend the school board meeting but it was my understanding that most, if not all, of the selectmen were there and none of them spoke against the raises for the teachers. I know that selectmen have a tough job to do and cutting the COLA was something they had to decide on and they chose not to give us one. Six weeks ago when I spoke on this we were told that a 2% COLA would be \$200,000 that number was wrong because, for a 3% COLA for 71 employees it is only \$153,000.

Moderator Kahn stated that what we will do is vote on the first amendment and then on the seconded amendment. Jack Dever asked Mr. Lovett where he thinks the money should be cut from. Miller Lovett answered that the departments know that if they had to make cuts they would know where to find the money from. He believes that each Department head would know where to make the cuts and they should be the ones to do it. Jack stated that he feels that is a cop out on the part of Mr. Lovett, if you want to start cutting budgets you should know where you want to cut the budget. It happened several years ago and the town meeting had to be continued for several days and they had to come back and eventually they had to add it back in. I think that Mr. Lovett should tell us where the cuts should be made if you think that the Department Heads are not telling you the truth. Sandra Mucci stated that she needed a clarification to what amounts are being effected, to which Mr. Kahn explained that they are looking at reducing the budget overall. Then there will be another amendment to increase the budget for a COLA for the employees. Colette explained that there is money to be reduced by looking line by line but that would take considerable time and not be practical here. The only way to do this reduction would be to do it here at the Town Meeting and then for the select board to tell each of each of the departments to cut the budgets whichever percent the selectmen felt would be necessary. Frank Michel stated that 6 months ago the selectmen gave the charge to the Town Manager and the staff to come up with a modified level budget.

The operating budget is 1.75% above what it was last year. And there is an argument that last year's budget was too great and so on. We are here now today and it is a 1.75% increase so I think we have done a very good job at the expense of our Town Employees because they joined the party not voluntarily. Backing up a bit, we are 5 member board and we have gone through a process and if the minority doesn't have the skill to convince one other member that is their problem. Peter, Bob and myself looked at every line item, we are the experts and we can't tell you where we could cut any more, this is a skinny budget. Is it perfect, no every budget can be tweaked. We are working on offsetting revenues which this universe doesn't see that if we collect money from someplace you don't have to pay taxes. So we have gone through looking at every line item, debating everything and the minority accuses us of not thinking and linking arms and being a block vote. This is not the case. I disagree with everything every chance I get. Historically we spent 5 or 6 days in a row going over every line item and I am personally hearing what a great job the minority has done in not convincing us what to do right. Frank went through the budget explaining what the vote was for each department Town Clerk 5-0, Assessing 5-0, Tax Collector 5-0, Community Development 4-1, Administrative Services 5-0, Executive Administration 4-1, Personnel 5-0, Debt Service, Conservation Commission 5-0 Regional Associations 5-0, Municipal Administration 4-1, Parks & Rec 4-1, Fire Department 5-0, Police Department 5-0, Water & Sewer 5-0, Public Library 4-1, Buildings & Ground 5-0, Cemeteries 5-0, Solid Waste 5-0, Highway 4-1, I asked to reduce the budget by \$50,000, Colette voted against it she wanted \$100,000.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

That was one area that we did reduce the budget because we knew we had the \$250,000 road improvement on one of the articles. I don't want to speak for Miller Lovett but he has always said he wants to come back to it, when he states knock off 2% to which I asked him to show me where this is our job. We did not abdicate our responsibilities, it is a good budget, the employees are taking a big hit for all the obvious reasons and I feel bad about that. During our discussions when we said that we would not have a COLA, we said this is a onetime event, but we need to jump on this because we hear the crowd. And I give both Colette and Miller a lot of credit. They are advocates for their positions and I appreciate their position and I respect it, I just don't agree with it. This is the way the Town is set up 3 men carry and it is the will of the people. I am not in favor of Colette and Miller's amendment and I am not in favor of Keith's amendment unless, the reduction carries and then I will be. Pam Bliss stated that although she feels that the employees are in a tough bind with not getting a COLA if the Miller's amendment goes through and the COLA amendment goes through then we would still be saving \$30,000 and that may not be a lot to some people but it is when you are trying to pay your taxes. I am a department head where I work and if my boss comes to me and says you need to cut your budget I know where I can cut it, and if they want their raises they will find where to cut it.

Bryan Holland asked what the procedure would be to have the ballot done as a secret ballot to which moderator Kahn explained that it would have to be a petition signed by 5 registered voters that are present. Miller Lovett stated that there must be a solution to reducing the budget which is a 5.978% almost a 6% increase in the tax rate and my argument is an unreasonable increase. This is why I have submitted a plan of level funding the operating budget which will bring the increase, in the municipal tax rate, to 3.51% even that's higher than I want. I think what a family would do, they would go through their budget specify where they would like to go then they would look at their income and try to figure out that the expenditures proposed would fit within their income. My approach to the budget is substantially different than has prevailed. In the budget process they are making real progress. My theory is that the municipal tax rate shouldn't go up more than 3%, that is a reasonable additional burden I would like to see it below that. I think it ought to be below that, when there is no COLA. I am in favor of a bonus for the employees but we will come to that. In a year when there is no COLA I think that it should be less than 3% I can't find a way to get it less than that. I know how difficult it is going to be to bring about other cuts. I have come up with a plan which I think should be considered as intelligent and not mean that the tax rate should not go up more 3.51%. When it comes to the COLA I am going to say that I am willing to go up higher than that to take care of the employees I think something needs to be done for the employees. That is the position I hold not a 5.978% increase is not reasonable and it ought to be reduced and reduced by level funding the operating budget. Paula Trombi disagrees that the budget should be reduced she has lived in NH for 30 years and only 7 here and has attended many more school district meetings in Southern NH. There were times when a decrease was being proposed, we were always told that if that passed it was only a certain portion of the budget that would be affected due to laws or RSA's. Is that true of a town budget as well and if it is then this cut could be very deep. Miller stated that this is from the operating budget only and the reason is the CIP have stated, over a period of time, that in order to avoid spikes in the tax rate, each year out of a 12 mil budget 1.8 mil ought to go for the infrastructure and if you cut some of that, it will come back to haunt you in the future. You won't avoid it, you will have a spike in the tax rate at a later time. We have had a history of underfunding the 1.8 mil we've now got it up to 1.8 and it should not be touched.

A study of the budget for the last ten years will show that if you work on the operating budget and you think it ought to be higher, then you cut the capital budget and for a number of years the operating budget has been going up too rapidly and this is the way to contain it. Look at the income of our tax payers and say that this is what we can afford this year. The Town can find a way to reduce your operating budgets by departments, bringing your expenditures back down to a reasonable rate the tax payers can afford. Peter Brothers stated that we are a board of 5 independent minds and although I respect what we are all trying to do using what experiences we have and what we see in store for Meredith. My feeling is that this year we instructed the Town Manager to come through with a modified level funded budget we got exactly what we asked for. We spent 3 months afterwards going through each individual item and made some cuts and add where our goals suggested we needed to have a little more concentration. I do believe our capital items are a very important part of where we are.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

I believe the operating budget this year is at the 173 and it is at the expense of the COLA. I would like to go on record that this is a one year event but I think it allowed some other things to happen on the bond side. I believe that Meredith will be paying their employees a proportionate and fair compensation package as it has in the past, sometimes it does have to catch up with the market place. I think that what we have presented is fair and will cover the wants and needs for the Town of Meredith for the ensuing year.

I recommend that we approve the budget as it was presented even though it was only a majority consensus of the board. William Bayard congratulated the board on the budget process with respect to the Town and the CIP. Jack Carty spoke against it because this is not the year to squeeze the most from the budget. Due to the extremely harsh winter the Town has been badly beaten up and we won't know how badly until the snow melts. It has been worked on and whether all or only part of the board votes for it I personally don't care I would like to call the question. Don McFarland asked what percent of the budget is personnel to which Brenda responded 57% of the budget. Don asked are we saying that this decrease would not touch the personnel portion rather the 43 % remaining? Brenda responded not necessarily at this point it could be any and all options.

Moderator called to vote on the amendment by a show of voter cards. The vote carried on the amendment. Moderator called to vote on the amendment, reducing the budget by a show of cards, the amendment has been defeated.

Keith True moved to amend Article 26 to include \$153,000 which will represent a 3% COLA for the Town Employees, seconded by Duncan McNeish. Hank Dennison stated, that as stated tonite the Public Works department does a fine job, a fine Police Department and all the Town employees. If you don't give these people raises they will find other jobs and you lose the good employees you have got. Chris Mega thanked the Town employees and supports the COLA and questioned the unfunded liability. Diana Thomas stated that she just retired from a company that was used in the survey that was done and was that the reasoning that the proposal was not to recommend a COLA. Colette stated yes and Frank stated that not all of the board felt that way it did factor in a way but not totally.

Diane went on to state that it was not a good survey the jobs did not compare to that of Town of employees even the way that it was compiled. I feel that the employees, as other people have stated, are very good and when you don't give a cost of living increase then you are effecting moral and as hard as they work, I vote in favor of the COLA. Bill Aucoin asked is it my understanding that this budget is gone from \$12,071,000 with an additional \$153,000? Lou Kahn explained that the \$153,000 is a proposed amendment. Bill stated that most of the people he is associated with do not get COLA every year, yet I do not choose to leave my job because I need my job. It does not make people leave their job they just don't get a raise that year, welcome to my world and to most of the people that work. I don't think that they don't deserve a raise, I deserve a raise, money is tight and money should not be handed out just because people need COLA, I am more for a merit award for a job well done.

Colette stated that in order to prepare for this we used the comparisons mostly from the public sector, our excellent employees are being paid a fair reasonable salary their benefits are fair and reasonable. Secondly a large number of employees have been adjusted so that does not mean they will not get a raise. There are some that are in the farthest step and it is the nature of what happens when you are in a job for a long time. We struggled with this quite a bit and we are only looking for this for one year. Justin Van Etten asked if there were quite a few employees that were bumped up on the scale so that only on paper it looks that they don't get a COLA but have gotten a merit raise. That is the only issue I have, if that is the case, why are we giving them more money. Frank Michel stated that the budget went up 1.75% that is cash on cash dollars spent, you can't hide behind the dollars. People were reclassified in their jobs and that to indicate that they were given more money is an insulting insinuation.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Keith stated that Colette used the survey to determine whether or not a COLA would be given. She has not followed through with that survey presented, obviously because that survey also said that two people were over paid and two people were well underpaid. It said that we were average with our benefit package in 2007 in 2008 we are being asked to pay from 5-11% on our insurance and nobody is complaining about that because we need insurance. But now you are not even giving us a 3% COLA when inflation rate is 6.1%. We are going to take home 15-20 dollars less per week this year without a COLA. We are just asking that somehow, with this .03cents on the dollar, you can try to help us bring home the same take home pay this year. You get what you pay for, we are average, that is what the survey said and if we fall back 6% or 3% this year, and then next year we will be 9% behind. At what point will the Town of Meredith give a 10% raise to anybody. If you fall behind this year, you will fall behind even more next year. We are not asking for a million dollars here, no employee for the Town of Meredith will get rich with a 3% COLA.

I think that if people have personal agendas they need to keep them out of Town politics, I am in favor of the way the system works. Department heads sitting down with their staff and coming up with the budget, meets with the Town Manager, they chip it down more and then it goes to the selectmen to be picked apart again, I can't live without a COLA I am not just speaking for myself I am speaking for 71 employees who probably each have two or three kids so it is not just 71 people divided by \$153,000 you're talking about a couple of hundred people that are going to use that money. So I think the people need to reconsider who they need to vote for and I think that if the board is going to use that survey they need to read it again and if they are going to follow through with it, then follow through with it. Dave Thorpe asked what percentages of the current salaries are budgeted for 2008, merit and adjustments. I was under the impression that this COLA was the only adjustment these employees would get. Apparently this is not the case you have money budgeted in the budget above the current base salaries for adjustment in merit. What percent is that? Brenda answered that the difference between the 2007 and 2008 for just salaries and wages, the increase amounted to \$36,560.11 for merit but they don't have to be given if the performance isn't there. The overall increase is .859%. At the public hearing Mr. Michel stated that the COLA would be \$200,000 and Keith was saying \$153,000, do we know what the right figure is? Frank stated that it was a guess. David Sticht stated that for two years he has attended the budget hearings he feels that they have done a 200% better job this year and I think that we should not pass the amendment and go with the budget that was originally proposed. He stated that he asked for a Town of Meredith 2008 estimated wages and I have 83 people and with the salaries and everything it says here 4, mil divided by 83 is an average of \$51,209 a year. I would think that there are more than 83 people living in the trailer parks and probably 90% of those are not making \$51,000 per year and they are not getting a pay increase and I don't think that it is fair to those people to pass this when the average is \$51,000. Duncan McNeish stated that when the COLA cut was introduced last fall it is a good deal different situation today as we stand here today on the 12th of March. I think it is a travesty if you don't give the people a COLA this year and I am very much in favor of it. David Smith stated if you don't give the COLA this year, costs are going up and we will be below average. Most employees that this will affect are not making the \$51,000 they are probably making \$30,000.

Jack Dever moved the question, seconded by Robert Kenneally

Moderator Kahn called for the vote on the amendment to Article 26 adding the COLA and by a show of voter cards the amendment passed.

Moderator Kahn called for a vote on Article 26 as amended and by a show of voter cards Article 26 passed as amended.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Pauline L. Jones – Town Clerk

Administrative Services

Administrative Services encompasses many functions:

Brenda L. Vittner, Director

Administrative Functions

- Reception
- Annual Budget Preparation
- Purchasing Functions; RFP's & Bids
- Supplies, Equipment, Issuance of Purchase Orders, & Contracts
- Insurance / Inventory Maintenance
- General Assistance
- Purchase Orders

Finance Functions

- Accounts Receivable
- Accounts Payable
- General Ledger Maintenance
- Payroll
- Utility Billing
- Tax Collection

Technical Functions

- Network Administration / Help Desk
- GIS Mapping & Support
- Web Development and Upkeep
- Maintenance of Tax Maps
- Telephone System Maintenance

Finance

Carrie Compton, Disbursement Accountant
Linda Labraney, Finance Officer

The Administrative Department strives to ensure the expedient and accurate processing of the financial data, technical support & maintenance, and other administrative functions as listed above. The staff is dedicated to provide quality customer service to property owners/taxpayers, clients, vendors and other Town Departments.

General Assistance

Brenda L. Vittner, Director
Linda Labraney, Finance Officer

During 2008, the Town of Meredith assisted over one hundred clients. New Hampshire RSA 165 requires each Town to assist people who live within their jurisdiction, who have no other means of support, who require temporary assistance, or whose bare minimum expenses exceeds their customary income. Following the Town of Meredith's guidelines, assistance has been granted for food, rent, heat, utilities, and prescriptions. Our General Assistance hours are 9:00 am to 12:00 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, however in the event of an emergency, someone is available Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Administrative Services

Information Technology

Eric Ferland, Information Technology

Information Technology had a very successful 2008 improving communications, disaster recovery, and network reliability. Using the existing fiber optic network the Community Center now serves as a redundant back up for the Towns vital records and communications. The backup at the Community Center is a failsafe and would be needed if the tape backups that are run nightly somehow get destroyed or fail.

Our town website is updated daily and can provide you with an array of information such as meeting minutes, forms, and even our Town Report Photo Contest Winner. We have many links attached to our website so please view it at: www.meredithnh.org.

Information Technology responded to approximately 600 emails containing questions in relation to non-functional phones, unresponsive applications, anomalies in queried data, website updates/changes, and network connection and sharing issues.

Geographic Information Systems

Michelle Therrien, GIS Specialist

In 2008, GIS helped many departmental projects with decision making and visual clarity through maps and spatial analysis using the geographic data layers containing information about elements within the town. A sampling of projects includes:

Assessing Dept.:	Annual update of tax maps and digital parcel layer Quarterly update of home and land sales map
Water/Sewer Dept.:	Updates to water and sewer system map GPS locations of system components (manholes, valves, hydrants)
Community Development:	GPS data collection for water quality monitoring strategy for Meredith Bay Septic Risk Analysis for the protection of our drinking water supply from Lake Waukewan
Conservation Commission:	Updated trail maps for 186 Acre Town Forest and Hamlin-Eames Recreation Area Map of Invasive Plant Species identified and GPS located along the roadsides within the town
Parks & Rec. Dept.:	Existing conditions survey of town parks

Many other requests from citizens and organizations for data and maps were fulfilled.

Assessing

Menta Martel, Assessing Office Manager
Bettina Ford, Field Data Collector
James Commerford, CNHA, Assessor

In 2008 the U.S. economy including the real estate market saw overall declines in value. While New Hampshire has not been immune to the downturn it also has not been as severely affected as other states. According to statistics compiled by the New Hampshire Multiple Listing Service property values statewide have seen an 8.79% decline from 2007 levels. In Belknap County the overall dip has been 6.75% with the median price for a single family residential property falling from \$239,900 in 2007 to \$223,700 this year. Meredith assessed values have seen a 4.76% drop from where they were a year ago.

The departments plan is to update all values in 2009. This will be our first town-wide update since the 2006 revaluation. Our goal is to notify taxpayers in early August 2009 as to their new assessments. These values will then affect the tax bill due in December.

Also, at year end we have completed our 2nd year of the 5-year re-inspection cycle. I would like to thank all taxpayers for their cooperation in this endeavor. We have begun Year 3 and will be concentrating our efforts in the areas of downtown Meredith, Lake Waukewan, and Route 3 North this year. The objective of the program is to ensure data accuracy in our assessments and to eliminate the need for a costly revaluation every five years. If anyone has any questions regarding the cyclical program please call our office at 677-4213.

Please visit the Assessing Department Link on the Town's website www.meredithnh.org for information regarding tax abatements, credits and exemptions, access to tax maps, tax rate history, and a link to the online assessment database.

Respectfully submitted,

James Commerford, CNHA
Tax Assessor

Community Development

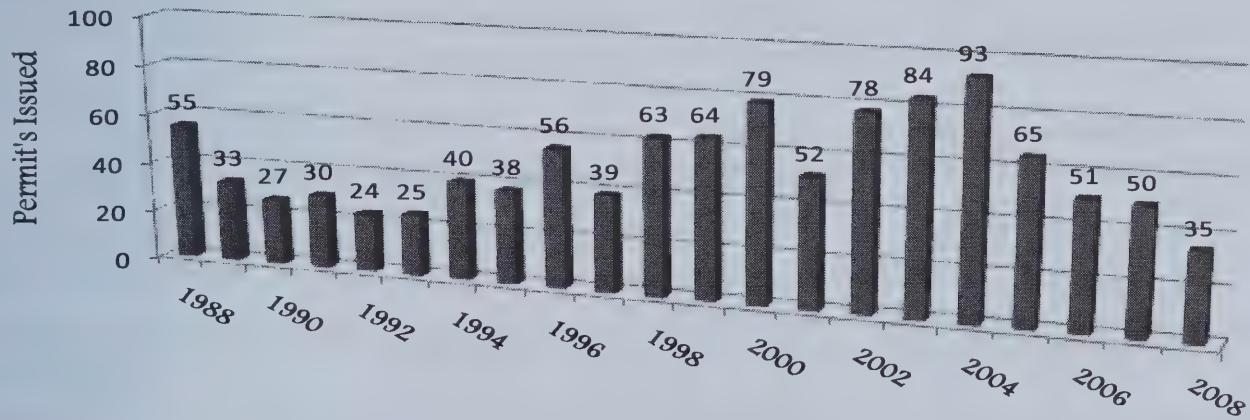
John C. Edgar, Community Development Director
 Mary Lee Harvey, Administrative Assistant

Bill Edney, Code Enforcement Officer
 Angela LaBrecque, Town Planner
 Christine Tivnan, Clerk

The Mission of the Community Development Department is to help the community achieve positive outcomes in land use, natural resource conservation, transportation, housing, public health and economic development. Development activities are reviewed with an emphasis on customer service, quality development and appropriate responses to safety, environmental, and other community concerns. The Department promotes dialogue and informed decision making.

Development Activity. Needless to say, development activity clearly slowed in 2008 impacting both residential and non-residential sectors. As indicated below, (35) single family homes were permitted in 2008. This is down from the (50) homes permitted the year before. To put this decline in context, permits issued for single family homes peaked in 2004 (93) and have declined each year since. In all likelihood, this downward trend will continue in 2009.

Building Permits ~ Single Family Homes



In 2008, construction was completed on several projects that had been approved prior to the recession. These include:

- A three-bay commercial building, Foundry Avenue
- A two-bay commercial building addition, Waukewan Street
- Re-development of the Meredith Shopping Center, NH Route 25
- A -3,100 square foot dental office, Northview Drive
- A 6,000 square foot warehouse, Northview Drive
- Construction of a portion of Phase II at the Crestwood Estates subdivision, Parade Road
- Construction of the Corliss Hill Farm subdivision, Lindsey Lane
- Construction of a cell tower, NH Route 104

Community Development continued...

In 2008 construction began on:

- An 85 unit senior living center, Upper Mile Point Drive
- Expansion of the Inter-Lakes Animal Hospital, US Route 3

In early 2009, we anticipate construction to begin on:

- A 32-unit affordable, multifamily facility, Boynton Road
- Infrastructure improvements at the Crestview Mobile Home Park, Boynton Road

Projects in the “pipeline” that are currently under various stages of review include:

- A mixed-use building (3,264 square foot commercial space and 3 apartments), Mill Street
- A 250 seat theatre/playhouse, Reservoir Road
- A 33 unit subdivision, Upper Ladd Hill Rd
- A 12,000 square foot retail building, US Route 3 South

Land Use Regulation: In March 2008, Meredith voters approved Open Space Subdivision zoning provisions promulgated by the Planning Board. These provisions are designed to encourage the incorporation of open spaces into subdivision design. Voters also approved changes to our accessory apartment provisions intended to add additional flexibility to this important housing option. The Planning Board adopted amendments to its regulations (Subdivision Regulations and Site Plan Review Regulations) updating its application fee structure and application submittal requirements.

Support of Volunteers: Community Development Department staff members either provide administrative support to, or participate in, many volunteer boards and committees.

These include:

- Planning Board
- Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA)
- 3/25 Public Advisory Committee (PAC)
- Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Advisory Committee
- Waukewan Watershed Advisory Committee
- Water System Advisory Committee
- Village Pathways Advisory Committee

Each of the boards and committees listed above consist of volunteer citizens committed to untold hours of community service. In each instance, our volunteers share the common goal of safeguarding the future of our community. Their responsibilities are often complex and without prolific reward. As a community we can not afford to become complacent about the invaluable “human capital” that helps make Meredith special. In the course of our busy lives, please take a moment to say “thanks” to our past and current volunteers.

Respectfully Submitted,

John C. Edgar, AICP
Community Development Director

Community Development

continued...

Planning Board Application Summary - 2008

Comm./Indus. Site Plan Approvals	13	Pre-Application Consultations	7
Home Occupation Site Plan Approvals	1	Scenic Road Tree Cutting Approvals	1
Subdivision Approvals	4	Architectural Design Reviews	8
Boundary Line Adjustment Approvals	3	Revocation and/or Disapproval	0

Zoning Board Summary - 2008

Variance Applications	24	Special Exception Applications	39
Variances Granted	23	Special Exceptions Granted	38
Variances Denied	1	Equitable Waivers Granted	0

Building Permit Activity-2007

New Single-Family Homes	35	Electrical/Plumbing	269
Two-Family Homes	0	Oil Burner	32
Multi-Family Homes (Condo)	0	Garages/Storage Buildings	22
New Commercial Buildings	5	Residential Renovations & Repairs	129
Special Use Permits	16	Commercial Renovations & Repairs	28
Mobile Homes	0	Docks/Boathouses/Repairs	3
Fences	13	Signs	32
Demolition	33	Driveways	30

Capital Improvements Program

Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Advisory Committee

Bill Bayard, Chairman

The following is an edited version of the executive summary from the Capital Improvements Program (CIP) 2009-2018

Annually the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Advisory Committee reviews capital needs and recommends a program of capital improvement projects over a ten year period. The primary purpose of the CIP is aid the Board of Selectmen and the School Board in their consideration of the annual budget.

As a preface to the following recommendations, it is important to note:

Capital Improvements totaling \$17,745,608 have been identified by the various town departments and the school district. The total recommended CIP costs for 2009 is \$1,738,263. Existing and proposed debt service totals \$1,346,950 or 77% of the total CIP recommended costs for that program year.

In 2009, recommendations for municipal capital improvements supported by the General Fund, exclusive of debt service, total \$354,000.

For 2009, the Town Manager has advised that the 2009 Budget will be a status quo year with no new programs, personnel or equipment in order to meet the goals of the Board of Selectmen. In its recommendations the CIP Committee attempts to balance capital improvements with the fiscal impact on taxpayers.

Capital Improvements Program continued...

Committee Recommendations...

Fire Department

Recommendation: No additional funds are needed.

Rationale: The fire station expansion approved in 2008 is under construction, within budget and on time. The debt service associated with the project will go into full effect in 2009 (\$214,661/ year for 15 years).

Public Works Department

Capital Equipment: No funds are recommended at this time.

The Committee requests that in 2009 that the Town Manager provides a complete capital equipment inventory as part of the update process so proposed replacements are represented in a complete context. Energy consumption and vehicle size should be taken into consideration especially in difficult economic times.

Roads:

Recommendation: \$100,000 towards the Batchelder Hill Road project.

Recommendation: \$25,000 towards the Main Street Rehabilitation Expendable Trust Fund established in 2008.

The Committee requests that in 2009, that the Town Manager provides a complete road inventory as part of the update process together with the Town's criteria for determining road reconstruction priorities.

General Government

Waterfront Infrastructure:

Recommendation: Continue to fund the Waterfront Infrastructure Expendable Trust Fund at \$35,000 per year for 2009-2011 as previously scheduled.

Conservation

Open Space/Conservation: No additional funds are recommended for the Open Space Expendable Trust Fund.

Rationale: Fund raising is currently underway for the Page Pond project. Although the 2008 bond authorization (400,000) has not yet been exercised the potential debt associated with this authorization is \$50,279/ year for 10 years. The Conservation Commission agreed to forego any requests for payments to the Open Space ETF during the life of the loan.

Parks and Recreation

Recreation Facilities:

Recommendation: Establish a Recreation Facilities Improvements Expendable Trust Fund.

Capital Improvements Program continued...

Allocate \$50,000 in 2009 and \$50,000 in 2010 for the purpose of making improvements to Childs Park located in Meredith Center. Childs Park is an important neighborhood park in Meredith Center. The park improvements will be coordinated so as to accommodate future traffic safety improvements in this area.

Water Department

The Water Department and the Water System Committee (WSC) met with the CIP Advisory Committee on two occasions in 2008. The CIP Committee was updated on the progress made towards developing a facilities plan for the source, treatment, storage, and distribution components of the water works. The WSC demonstrated significant progress; however definitive plans and priorities were not available for the CIP report. The CIP Committee is supportive of the work being accomplished by the WSC and looks forward to the 2009 cycle at which time a completed plan and rate study can be considered.

Water System Improvements:

Recommendation: Allocate \$100,000 in 2009 towards the Water System Improvements Expendable Trust.

Rationale: The WSC and the Water Department have identified various short term needs including water pump replacements, SCADA system upgrades, meter replacements, and leak detection. A portion of the short-term needs may be fundable thru capital reserves on hand as determined by the Board of Selectmen. The \$100,000 should be applied to the priorities determined during the 2009 budget process.

Recommendation: Allocate \$110,000 in 2009 towards the Groundwater Source Study to determine if there is a potential source(s) of water supply for a municipal well.

Rationale: The following are the potential benefits of a groundwater source of supply for the water system; Possible alternative source of water or backup to water tank in case of problems,

Possible additional water to meet peak needs and to fill water tank during off peak hours,

May be able to meet added water needs,

Probably would be much cheaper than a second water tank,

And if a site is found, it would allow the town to purchase rights prior to development in the area.

The funds for this would be subject to matching funds by the Water Department currently sixty percent.

The municipal portion would be forty percent - \$44,000.

Sewer Department

Sewer System Improvements: Funds for significant sewer system improvements or payments to a Sewer System Improvements ETF were not scheduled at this time.

A study of the sewer system is under way and may be completed by year end 2008. Upon completion of the study, system needs will be better defined, estimated and prioritized.

Inter-Lakes School District

Facilities Expendable Trust:

Recommendation: Allocate \$37,312 for payment to the Facilities Expendable Trust Fund. This represents Meredith's share of a \$50,000 total ETF payment. The District utilizes funds when needed to make repairs to existing facilities.

Police

As 2008 draws to a close, we also come near ending our second year in our new “home”, and we are still receiving sincerely positive feedback from the community and visitors as to the new police station. Thus, I would like to start the Meredith Police Department’s 2008 Town Report synopsis with a very well deserved “thank you” to the residents of Meredith for their continued support.

I would also like to share with the community the Mission Statement of the Meredith Police Department, which is as follows:

“The Mission of the Meredith Police Department is to prevent crime, preserve order and to protect the rights, lives and property of all people. We will work in partnership with our Community to identify and effectively respond to the diverse, ever-changing social neighborhood problems and needs. We will do this with respect, fairness and compassion.”

Along with this are several main Department Objectives, which we maintain on a daily basis. They include, but are not limited to, some of the following ideals:

- to maintain the quality of life and reduce fear of crime in the Community,
- a commitment to serve the Community of Meredith as law enforcement professionals, pledging to serve in trust and confidence; and
- to maintain a high level of Integrity, Partnership and Service.

In reality, it takes the subdivisions within the Meredith Police Department, as well as the whole, to perform to our best abilities. These subdivisions are broken down into Patrol and Support Services.

The Patrol Division is further broken down into Patrol (including Supervisors and Patrol Officers), Parking Enforcement and Traffic Enforcement. The main objective of the Patrol Division is to protect life and property. And, although Patrol cannot be everywhere at once, we strive to be as active as possible with the personnel and resources at our disposal.

The Support Services Division is comprised of six sections: Investigation, Communication, Records, Training, Juvenile and School Resource Officer (SRO). Again, the primary objective, as with the Patrol Division, is to protect life and property. This is accomplished through continuous investigation directed at the repression of crime, the recovery of property and the apprehension of the offenders. The Support Services Division also enhances the operation of the department by the analysis of records, by securing and developing personnel and for the development and promotion of crime prevention, community relations and school safety programs.

As to the role of the SRO at the Inter-Lakes School system, the SRO is a certified Police Officer, who also acts as a liaison between the school, the students, the community and the Meredith Police Department. Although the school has its own rules and regulations and Student Code of Conduct, crimes at the school are treated as they would be treated outside of school grounds.

As always, I would like to address a few topics of interest and reminders. The Town of Meredith as an active Snow Emergency Ban, which means there is no parking on public streets between the hours of midnight to 6 am, starting November 30 and running to April 1. Also, please make sure that if you own a dog(s), all dogs need to be licensed with the Town Hall. Dog licenses run from May 1 to April 30 of the following year; this is state law, not just a town ordinance.

Police continued...

I would also like to advise that the Meredith Police Department, in conjunction with the NH Department of Transportation and the NH State Police, conducted several speed-related Patrols on Meredith Center Road. As a result of concern and effective collaboration, patrols in the Meredith Center Road and Chemung area have and will stay increased. It should be noted as a reminder that the speed limit for Meredith Center Road, from its onset from NH Route 104 to Windsong Place is now 30mph, not 40mph.

As we did last year, the Meredith Police Department conducted a Sobriety Checkpoint on August 23 into August 24, from 2100 hours to 0300 hours. The ultimate purpose of a Sobriety Checkpoint is to screen and subsequently apprehend those drivers impaired by alcohol. This year's Checkpoint processed 185 vehicles, and some of the results included:

- 10 arrests, including DWI, Unlawful possession of Alcohol, Possession of Controlled Drugs, Operating Under Suspension, Electronic Bench Warrants and Protective Custody;
- 4 Motor Vehicle Summons issued for Open Container, Operating Without a Valid License, Child Restraint and Unregistered Vehicle; and
- 11 Warnings for Defective Equipment.

The Patrol Division also conducted a saturation patrol in the vicinity of the Checkpoint area, which resulted in 17 vehicle stops, with 2 of those being DWI arrests. The feedback from subjects passing through the Checkpoint was again favorable this year. Of note, it should be commented on as the number of commendable people encountered, who filled the role of designated driver.

As always, myself and the entire staff of the Meredith Police Department wish to express our gratitude for the support of the residents of the Town of Meredith. Our pledge to keep the Town of Meredith safe and to treat people the way we would want to be treated, remains the same.

The following statistics provide a rundown of activity between January 1, 2008 and December 31, 2008:

Activities	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Calls for Service	14,070	15,406	14,134	13,180
Motor Vehicle Warnings	4,804	5,677	4,260	3,601
Motor Vehicle Summons	289	204	148	263
Arrests/Felony Arrests	403	417/40	356	372
Accidents	327	288	310	243
Incidents	573	546	465	532

Felony Arrests/Convictions:

****There is a significant increase in Felony Level Cases investigated by this department; 125 Felony Level cases this year versus 33 Felony Level cases investigated in 2007. In our concern in the ride in the level of more severe crimes, we would like to remind Residents to make a conscious effort to secure the safety of themselves, their homes and their belongings, which can be as simple as locking house and vehicle doors.****

Waukewan Watershed Advisory Committee

It's been nearly five years since the Waukewan Watershed Advisory Committee was established for the protection of the Town's drinking water source. In addition, the Committee was charged to protect the watershed for recreational purposes while not excessively infringing upon development rights. It has been this balanced approach which has made the efforts of the WWAC successful. The Committee is a non-regulatory group acting in an advisory capacity to accomplish beneficial change through civic and governmental organizations in the five towns within the watershed. The Committee is made up of dedicated representatives with diverse backgrounds who consistently choose to do the right thing for the right reason as a team in the best interest of the watershed.

Engaging all five towns within the watershed, the Committee developed a watershed management plan which was accepted by Meredith in 2005. Since that time, the focus of the Committee has been the implementation of the plan. The Committee's strategies towards implementation include education, conservation, research & monitoring and regulation. In the implementation phase, the Committee is continuing to work with management, boards, commissions and committees in all five towns, as well as, a number of State organizations which activities impact the watershed. There are many recommendations within the plan and the Committee is addressing each of the recommended action items on a "most important now" basis. The management plan can be reviewed on line at the Meredith web page. Shortly, the Committee will be including a spreadsheet online identifying the work completed to date. This plan spreadsheet will be continuously updated as additional plan action items are completed or addressed.

The Committee meets on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 8 am in the Meredith Town Hall Annex. Any individuals who would like to join the Waukewan Watershed Advisory Committee, please contact Bruce Bond 279-6430 or Angela LaBrecque, Meredith Town Planner 279-4538.



US Route 3 / NH Route 25 Improvements Study

The Meredith US Route 3 / NH Route 25 Improvements Transportation Planning Study is a transportation planning study of the Route 3 corridor from Route 104 to Route 25 and the Route 25 corridor from Route 3 to the Centre Harbor town line. It is obvious to users of this corridor that traffic congestion is a serious concern. However, this study is looking beyond traffic and taking a broader look at how the corridor fits within the community. This approach, known as Context Sensitive Solutions or CSS, considers the context within which a transportation improvement project will exist. The New Hampshire Department of Transportation has embraced this community driven approach and has selected the Meredith US3/NH 25 Improvements Study as one of the pilot projects for the implementation of CSS. As reported in last years Town Report, there are many unique elements of the CSS Process. A Project Advisory Committee (PAC) was formed to ensure all aspects of the corridor would be considered. The PAC includes many members representing the Town of Meredith including town officials and citizens. In addition, members represent transportation and environmental groups. Over the course of the project the PAC has met 26 times, 13 of these occurring in 2008. In previous years the PAC created a Project Problem Statement, a Project Vision Statement, developed criteria to screen potential alternatives, and developed a range of potential alternatives. In 2008, the PAC focused on evaluating and screening alternatives to determine a range of reasonable alternatives. The determination of the range of reasonable alternatives also included input from the general public. A newsletter was prepared and distributed in the summer to present the alternatives that are under consideration. Below is the body of the newsletter.

A series of Public Informational Meetings were held in August 2008 to present alternatives to the public and get their input on whether an alternative was reasonable. The Public Informational Meetings were well attended and the public confirmed the screening that had been completed by the PAC. At the end of 2008 a range of reasonable alternatives had been established.

All of the project activities to date will be summarized in a Summary/Classification Report that will be drafted in early 2009. This report will set the stage for the next phase of the project, which will select a preferred alternative and clear it with an environmental document. The PAC is expected to participate in these activities.

The Project Website at www.meredith3-25.com contains all project materials, documents, presentations, figures, and meeting minutes. A comment/questions page is also provided to allow members of the public to submit their comments or questions to the project team. The Summary/Classification Report will be posted when it is complete.

Project Location

The Meredith US Route 3/NH Route 25 Improvements Transportation Planning Study includes US Route 3 from Route 104 to Route 25 and Route 25 from US Route 3 to the Centre Harbor town line, a distance of approximately 10 miles. The corridor is a mix of rural and semi-rural areas. The US Route 3 corridor and the Route 25 corridor to the base of "High School Hill" cross New England Village Connector while the Route 25 corridor from the High School to the town line runs in Rural Connector. The major river for the project is to maintain these two distinct drainage basins.

Project Goal

The goal of the Meredith US Route 3/NH Route 25 Improvements Transportation Planning Study is to develop a solution to the transportation needs of this part of the Lakes Region. This is consistent with Meredith's vision for its future. The attraction of the Lakes Region for tourists, recreational users, and full time and seasonal residents can lead to increased traffic, congestion along US Route 3 and NH Route 25.

US Route 3 Corridor Concepts

This cross section of the US Route 3 corridor through the Meredith Village area is one of the key considerations for the proposed corridor. The objectives development process, among others, are to implement a more linear corridor, develop a more compact urban environment, and limit cross sections and intersecting utilities. To the right, four lane ways, either with or without shoulders, are illustrated. The figure below illustrates the difference in width of three of the cross sections under consideration.

Alternatives Under Consideration

A Vision Statement has been developed for the project that seeks to merge "traffic through a slow, steady, safe and有序的未来" while "people will feel comfortable walking or cycling on the corridor". To meet this vision, many concepts, ideas, options, solutions, and alternatives have been evaluated as part of the US3/NH25 Improvements Project. A Range of Alternatives and Constraints has been developed by the Project's Advisory Committee for consideration. Below is a partial list of the range of Alternatives and Constraints that are under consideration:

- No Right Turn
- 4-Lane on US Route 3
- 4-Lane on NH Route 25
- 4-Lane Roundabout
- Pedestrian Bridge
- Pedestrian Tunnel
- 2 Lane Roundabout at Route 3
- Loopsided Traffic Signal at Route 3/25 intersection
- 2 Lane and 3 Lane Roundabouts at Route 3/25 intersection
- Pedestrian Traffic Signal at Route 3/25 intersection
- Edges located on US Route 3
- Pedestrian Crosswalk or Underpasses on US Route 3

Village Core

- Kedron Brook Road to St. Barnabas Church
- Intersection of Kedron Brook and St. Barnabas Church Roads to Broad Street and St. Barnabas Church
- Kedron Brook Road to Broad Street
- Kedron Brook Road between St. Barnabas Church and Broad Street
- Provide a new connection between St. Barnabas Church driveway and Pleasant Shores Circle
- Eliminate corner intersections

Rural Route 25

- Kedron Brook Road to Pleasant Shores Circle
- Intersection of Kedron Brook and Pleasant Shores Circle
- Kedron Brook Road to Broad Street and St. Barnabas Church
- Provide a new connection between St. Barnabas Church driveway and Pleasant Shores Circle
- Eliminate corner intersections

Intersection Concepts

A key consideration of the project is the configuration of the intersection of the two major roadway corridors, Route 3/25, Route 3/25, and Route 25/Pleasant Street. Below are three configurations that have been developed for consideration:

Conservation Commission - Meredith

The Meredith Conservation Commission is pleased to report that the project to acquire 567 acres of the Page Pond and Forest property for conservation protection has been brought to a successful conclusion. The 567-acre property in eastern Meredith was a top conservation priority because of its recreational uses, wildlife habitat, and its importance as a key northern watershed influencing the water quality of Lake Winnipesaukee. Meredith residents have long considered the Page Pond and Forest tract as an identifying feature of the community and a highly significant scenic area. It features an un-fragmented forest, a completely undeveloped 19-acre Great Pond, and an extensive wetland complex.

The state of New Hampshire's land conservation program, LCHIP, made a \$400,000 grant toward the \$2.0 million purchase price, with the town contributing \$750,000. An additional \$752,000 has been raised through a private capital campaign. A second shot of adrenalin was provided by local artist Stephen Hodecker, who auctioned a painting to benefit the project.

We want to recognize the vision of the Board of Selectmen, who gave us the flexibility to reach the purchase price by our deadline. Most of all we applaud the tireless efforts of the staff of the Trust for Public Land and the local residents who comprised Leadership Campaign Committee, led by Mark Billings and Carol Gerken, whose untiring efforts helped to bring about the protection of this property. This was truly a team effort, and now our work turns to managing this magnificent area for the benefit of our residents and visitors.

The Conservation Commission plans to open the property for year-round low-impact recreation, including hiking, cross country skiing, hunting, fishing, canoeing, bird watching and nature appreciation. As a community owned and managed asset, public access and recreation will continue in perpetuity.

Meanwhile the Conservation Commission continued to fulfill its other obligations. In addition to our scheduled meetings Commission members, alternates and other volunteers spent many hours 'in the field' monitoring your Town Forests and conservation easements held by the Town to insure the public's interests in these properties is protected. These properties range from as far east as Bear Island to as far west as Hermit Woods.

The final version of the Natural Resources Inventory, part II, should be available this spring.

Your Commission reviewed 35 Dredge and Fill project proposals such as docks, culverts, beaches and subdivisions and provided comment related to the protection of natural resources; including wetlands, water, fish and wildlife and encroachments on the wetland buffer zone. Buffer zones serve an important function in protecting water quality and wetland dependant species, as well as, the functioning of the wetland itself.

Water quality continues to be a high priority for your Conservation Commission. Water quality testing, some of which is conducted by the Commission, indicates that most lakes and streams are of pretty good quality, but there are a number of indicators showing up that raise concerns in specific areas.



Photos taken by: Dan Heyduk
Submitted by: Michelle Therrien

Conservation Commission - Meredith

continued...

We accepted the final report of the working group that was formed to explore the various opportunities regarding natural resource conservation, recreational and educational uses available in our newest Town Forest (the former Feltham property). That report will be available on-line on the Town's website. First steps in implementing sections of the report began this year with the re-routing of the access trail which originates on Philbrook Avenue. This task was completed by Commission and other local volunteers under the direction of members of the NH Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club's Trails Committee. Further projects under their leadership are planned for 2009. All trails were blazed appropriately by commission member Dan Heyduk. Signage was created by volunteer Michael Dickinson who then assisted Dan in their installation.

A comprehensive trail map has been developed and is available for the public at Town Hall, Community Center and online at www.meredithnh.org.

Produced and provided by: Michelle Therrien

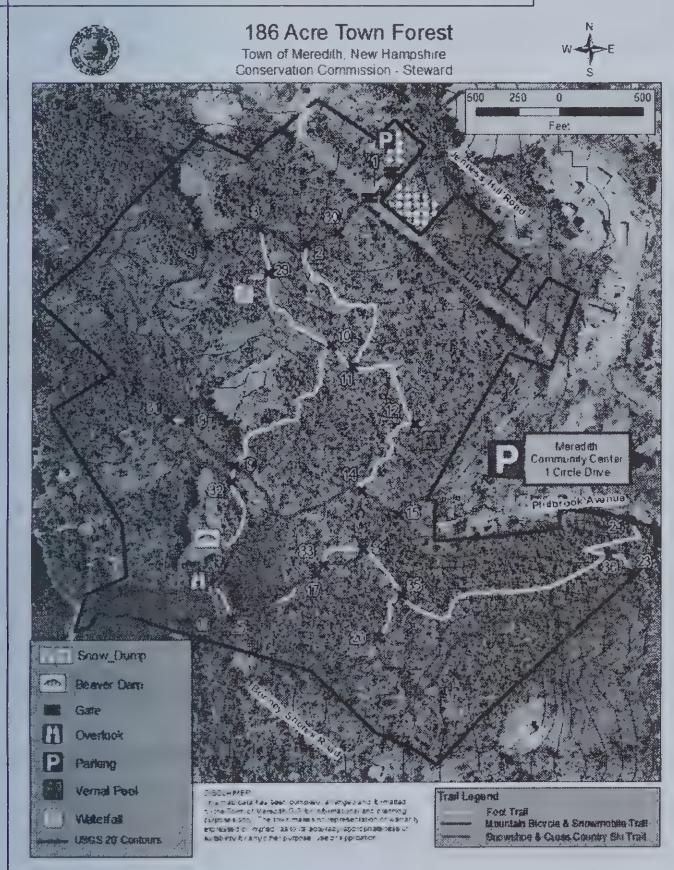


Photo taken by: Dan Heyduk
Submitted by: Michelle Therrien

Respectfully submitted,

Don MacFarlane – Chair, Pauli Novicki – Vice-Chair
Ralph Pisapia – Treasurer, Bob LeCount – Secretary
Members – Peter Miller, Barbara Smyth, Dan Heyduk,
Alternates – Jacquie Colburn, John Sherman, Terry Lance, Paula Wanzer

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Fire

I would like to start by sharing my warmest appreciation towards all the residents who have welcomed me and my family to Meredith. Words cannot describe the gratitude, kindness, caring and overall hospitality which my family and I have received since residing here. To the Town Manager/Managers, Board of Selectman, Department Supervisors, Fire Department Officers & Members, Town Employees, Citizens and the many new friends and neighbors, my family and I truly thank you for excepting us into your wonderful community and allowing me to broaden my career and become your new Fire Chief.

As time moves forward, the completion date of our new station gets closer. All the department members and myself truly thank the residents of our community for the approval and support to build this new facility. It certainly will meet the department's daily needs for many years to come and to allow the Department to better prepare to meet the ever changing demands for providing emergency services. To the dedicated department members, municipal leaders and citizens who contributed numerous hours in the review and planning process of this facility, we thank you. This effort certainly has paid dividends to date and will continue to do so as this facility is completed and placed into full service. This facility will also allow the Department to develop a "Student Live-in Program" with students from the local tech college majoring in fire sciences. This program will support our emergency response and building and equipment maintenance and inspection efforts. All of the members of the Department also wish to thank all of the local merchants and others who donated special services and facilities to allow the Department to continue operations throughout the construction process. An open house is in the initial planning stages and will be held this Spring.

Another major undertaking for the Department was the planning and design of a new aerial truck, which is long overdue for the community. On order, is a 100 ft. tower truck manufactured by Pierce. Funds for this unit had been set aside over the past several years which allowed for the purchase of this piece of apparatus at a substantial savings to the Town. With the arrival of this truck late this summer, the Department members will be busy training on its operation as it will be an additional resource to the Department to enhance both the safety of our firefighters and the residents of the Town.

In the last couple of months, the department was fortunate to receive assets in the form of a donation and grant from two local merchants. With the donation of two snow machines from Laconia Harley Davidson, this will allow the Department to improve its rescue capability during the winter months, both on land and frozen bodies of water. A grant from Hannaford Brothers was accepted to support our ongoing training needs in the form of audio visual equipment. Both donations are truly appreciated by the entire Meredith Fire Department.

Fire Call Recap	2008	2007	2006	2005
Fire Related (structure, vehicle and brush)	8.8%	6.8%	6.1%	6.7%
Mutual Aid (assisting neighboring towns)	10.1	12.7	8.9	14.4
Rescue (motor vehicle accidents, medical)	20.9	29.9	31.1	28.0
Public Assist (alarm activations, etc.)	60.2	50.6	53.9	50.9
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Total number of calls	387	354	360	389

Fire continued...

“Fire Related” calls represent all types of fires, including structures, vehicle, and brush. The majority of the fire related calls were brush and motor vehicle fires and in all cases, there were no personal injuries. Fortunately we were involved with only a couple of structure fires. As fuel prices increase, more people are considering alternative sources of heating their homes. Please use extreme caution if you are considering using an alternative source, for example before you light up the wood stove, consider having a professional perform an inspection to determine the safety of your intentions. We at the Fire Department are always glad to assist if you should have questions or would like a brochure on a variety of safety matters, such as fire extinguishers, carbon monoxide and smoke detectors and home inspections.

“Mutual Aid” calls are those where a neighboring community has an emergency situation and due to the need for either additional equipment and/or manpower, requests the assistance of our Department. As a participant in the Lakes Region Fire Mutual Aid, we periodically are called upon to help our neighboring towns, as they in turn are called upon to help us in our time of need. Also this year our Department was called upon twice to assist with natural disasters in the Southern portion of the State.

“Rescue Calls” nearly 75% of our rescue calls are for motor vehicle accidents. It is the responsibility of the Police Department to investigate the cause of these accidents; however, from our observations, the vast majority of the accidents that we respond to are caused by the lack of attention to the driving function, such as talking on a cell phone or driving too fast for the conditions. So please drive safely!

The last category, **“Public Assist”** includes a large variety of call types such as fuel spills, downed power lines, alarm activations (smoke and carbon monoxide detectors), and good intent calls (typically these are calls where the caller thought that there was a problem, which ended up not being the case - if you care enough to call, care enough to investigate the matter, maybe you can help someone in need). This past year we responded to 233 of these types of calls, of which 95 were related to alarm activations. Generally, alarm activations are referred to as “False Alarms”, and are most often the result of a lack of maintenance, such as not changing batteries regularly or not having detectors serviced periodically. In most instances once an owner is made aware of the problem, it is corrected and repeat false alarms are eliminated. For those of you who have an alarm system that is monitored by an alarm company, please contact the Fire Department and discuss the advantages of installing a Knox box at the premises. This is a secure way to store a key to your premise and it greatly facilitates our Department in gaining timely access should you not be available to give us entry. Now that we have discussed false alarms, a question to ask yourself is: “How many alarm activations may **not** occur when needed?” For this reason, you should test your detectors to help reduce the possibility of one not working when it should. Most detector manufacturers suggest that a smoke and carbon monoxide detectors be replaced with a new unit every ten years – this is not a huge expense, and the alternative could very well be much more costly.

In closing, I look forward towards the overall challenges to come, meeting addition citizens and supporting this community as Fire Chief in the upcoming year. Finally, remember **early detection in the form of smoke detectors save lives, check yours!**

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth G. Jones, Fire Chief

Forest Fire Warden

During this past year, there was limited activity relative to outside fires and the need for Fire Department assistance. Over 600 burning permits were issued to property owners in Meredith, with many of these classified as "Seasonal". The department did receive a number of calls, for what we in the fire services classify as "Smoke Investigations", which often turned out to be someone burning without the necessary permit; burning between the hours of 9AM and 5PM; or, having left a fire unattended. These types of calls required Fire Department involvement and could have been avoided by following the simple guidelines set forth by the NH Forestry Service. Depending on the nature of the call, fines are assessed, which helps offset the cost of responding to such calls. To help avoid being a recipient of a fine, please follow the guidelines outlined below:

Obtain a permit - Permits are required to be obtained by the **landowner** whenever a fire is kindled out-of-doors. There is no charge for a permit, which may be obtained at the Downtown Fire Station, the Town Office, Y-Landing Marina, Meredith Center Store or Harbor Hill Camping Area. When obtaining a permit, be prepared to show a photo ID, such as a driver's license. Permits are always required for any fire kindled in the out of doors, EXCEPT if there is adequate snow cover. If you are in doubt about the adequacy of snow cover, such as in the early Spring, please check our Smokey the Bear signs. If the burning conditions are displayed, such as "LOW, MODERATE, etc.", a permit is necessary. Permits are good for up to three days, starting with the day of issue. Seasonal permits for certain types of fires, such as campfires, are also available. Should you kindle a fire without a valid permit, fines by the State in the amount of up to \$2,000 and/or a year in jail can be levied. Even with a valid permit, under State law, any damage caused as a result of a kindled fire becomes the obligation of the party responsible for kindling the fire, including the **cost of suppression**.

Be obviously present while burning - Not only is this a requirement, it also reduces many of the complaints that we receive that, "There is a fire and no one is present".

Complete extinguishment - When you are done with your burning, make sure that the fire is *completely extinguished*. Extinguishment does not mean throwing a little sand on the fire, it means soaking it down thoroughly.

Burning times – Please be aware that even with a valid permit in hand, fires may NOT be kindled between the hours of 9 AM and 5 PM, unless it is raining heavily. Many people question the 9 to 5 rule – this has been determined to be the time of day when the wind is the strongest and there is little moisture on the ground – after 5 PM the wind typically slows down and the dew begins to cover the ground.

In closing, on behalf of myself, and our local deputy wardens, we all appreciate everyone's awareness and express our sincere thank you for helping us do our job. If you have any doubts about what the rules are please call one of the locations noted above – phone numbers can be found elsewhere in this Town Report, we are all dedicated to helping you keep safe and would much prefer answering a few questions as opposed to coming to visit you on an emergency basis.

Remember Smokey the Bear's slogan – "***Only you can prevent forest fires***".

Submitted by:

Charles G. Palm, Warden

Meredith Public Library Trustees

Last year our focus was on personnel with the transition to a new library director in Erin Apostolos and the promotion to assistant library director of Judy Hodges. Their leadership along with the dedicated work of the library staff and volunteers has the library running smoothly.

This year our focus has turned to our antique building. Our building is on the National Register of Historic Places. This past year we have replaced our furnace with a new, more efficient system. We are also restoring our aging windows to be more energy efficient.

We are replacing our malfunctioning stair lift to provide complete access for our patrons with disabilities. This has been a long process because the low ceiling at the stairway to the children's room required a special exception from the Governor's Commission on Disabilities.

We are repairing our slate roof in areas where we have experienced back-up during the winter months and removing a sky light that is partly to blame for the problem. We have retained a specialist in slate roofing for this project.

We are in the process of retaining a specialist to repair and maintain the clock on the front face of the building. The workings of the clock are visible in the children's room and a fascination to our younger patrons.

There are areas of our brick exterior that are in need of restoration and re-pointing. We are looking for the right expert in this area to preserve the appearance and structural integrity of the exterior. The interior is also scheduled for a paint job.

The restoration and cleaning of the library art holdings and rare book collection is an ongoing process. The collection has been appraised and we have received recommendations for preservation.

We would like to thank all the folks at the town's Public Works Department for their help in keeping our building and grounds in good shape. They saved us on numerous occasions when we had back-up problems on the roof.

We also welcome the re-formation of the Friends of the Library. They now number over eighty members and we encourage anyone interested to join their ranks.

We are looking forward to a great 2009 and thank all our patrons for making 2008 such a success.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul S. Eldridge, Chairman

Meredith Public Library

First, I want to thank the trustees, staff, and patrons of the Meredith Public Library for welcoming me to the community. It has been a wonderful year, and I've enjoyed meeting hundreds of new people. The people of Meredith have been helpful with their suggestions for the library, and we've appreciated all the feedback.

This year we saw a rebirth of the long-dormant Friends of the Meredith Library. Thank you to Friends Chair Danielle Scott and Treasurer Barbara Clark for working so hard to make everything come together. Also thank you to Friends board members Gary Mason, June Noreen, Anne Whiting, Linda Matson, Carol Moritz and Jean Dougan. In less than a year, the Friends have recruited eighty-five members, and membership continues to grow.

I also wish to thank Paul Ristaino and his crew for another excellent year of service. From replacing light bulbs to moving furniture, they could be counted on to work courteously and efficiently.

We said goodbye to two staff members. Victoria Lang left us to become Director of the Holderness Library and Pat Plattner retired with her husband to North Carolina. Both are very much missed by staff and patrons. We also welcomed two new members. Karen Henchey is our Assistant Young Adult Librarian and has established teen programming as well as Tot Time at the library. Christopher Leland is our new Technical Services Librarian and does a lot of work behind the scenes to be sure our library catalog is in top-notch shape.

Jessie Wright, our Children's Librarian, continues to add innovative children's programs such as Bedtime Stories, Webkinz Club and a very busy Australian-themed Summer Reading Program. She also participated in town-wide programs to promote literacy for children.

On the technology side, we launched our new library Website at www.meredithlibrary.org. Patrons may now access our calendar of events, connect to state databases to research things such as genealogy, or download one of thousands of audio books using a Meredith Library card. We also expanded our audio-visual collection with more current DVDs, CDs, Books on CD, and a new audio book format called "Play-aways." We purchased a new computer table to allow patrons more privacy while conducting their online business.

At the beginning of the year we changed our circulation policy to extend the loan periods of most items and to do away with automatic renewals. Though we have been extremely busy this year and have added many new patrons, the new circulation policy makes our circulation numbers appear lower than they were last year. However, in these hard economic times, the library has become even more vital to the community than ever.

Erin Apostolos, Library Director

Audio Visual Materials	26,992	Audio Visuals	1,075
Books	53,011	Books	3,868
Periodicals	2,104	Gifts	105
Costumes	409	Lost/Discarded	8,382
Interlibrary Loans	1,960		
Reference Questions Answered	2,889		
Number of Registered Patrons	6,260		
Passes to NH Learning/Recreation	77	Total Circulation	84,553
Internet Usage	7,877	Total Inventory	42,867

Parks and Recreation

Vint M. Choiniere, Parks and Recreation Director, CPRP

Rick Desharnais, Program Director

Russell Weeks II, Maintenance Crew Chief

We would like to thank the many volunteers and sponsors who contributed so much to the success of our programs and activities in 2008. Thank you also to town and school officials, members of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee, Friends of Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Buildings and Grounds, Fire, Police, Water and Planning & Zoning Departments for their continued support of our activities.

Thanks also for the support and cooperation we receive from the Inter-Lakes Youth Soccer Association, Lakes Region Youth Softball League, and the Cal Ripken Youth Baseball League. Thank you to Carl Johnson, Jr. for his tremendous volunteer support of many projects and activities over the past several years.

We would also like to thank our Parks & Recreation Department team members and Program Instructors who are all professionals in their fields. They take great pride in offering interesting and healthy recreational opportunities to our community.

Facility Improvements and Projects

The Parks and Recreation maintenance team made many improvements to our recreation facilities in 2008. These included the construction of a new bath house at Waukewan Beach, repairs to skate park elements, Prescott Park building improvements, infield renovations at the Prescott Park ball fields, installation of a seating area at Waukewan Beach and the continued implementation of a comprehensive turf management plan to provide safe and high quality playing fields for a wide variety of user groups. Our goal is to provide safe, clean and accommodating facilities that our community can be proud of and enjoy for years to come.

Community Center Flourishes

Although heavy demand for use of the Community Center was predicted prior to opening the facility in 2006, actual usage has surpassed expectations. Increased demand for the Community Center continued in 2008. Along with many activities being offered by the Meredith Parks and Recreation Department, the Community Center hosted 23 different public service organizations on a regular and frequent basis for meetings, training sessions, public hearings, and presentations. These groups included municipal, school department, state, and federal agencies.

The Community Center hosted 65 different non-profit groups in 2008 many of which utilized the facility on a regular basis. The Community Center also hosted 75 different private groups such as birthday parties, wedding receptions, family reunions, business ventures, and many others.

Parks and Recreation continued...

The Meredith Parks and Recreation Department has registered 1,728 families for programs it has offered since opening the Community Center. In 2008 the Community Center received 6,120 registrations for the Parks and Recreation Department's high school and middle school after school "drop in" program, where children have the opportunity to choose their own activities in both the activity center and game room. A list of 2008 program participation numbers for activities offered by the Meredith Parks and Recreation Department is provided below.

The Community Center also hosted two of the largest elections in the town's history as election and town officials, town employees, volunteers, voters, and everyone involved displayed a cooperative spirit which produced two efficient and historic election events.

Program	Participants	Program	Participants
5 Movie Night	300	Hershey Track and Field Program	31
Adult and Youth Tennis Lessons	22	Holiday Open House	200+
Adult Coed Softball	80	Ice Skating lessons	14
Adult Recreational Tennis	50	North Pole Calling	51
After School Program	39	Preschool Playgroup	46
American Red Cross Babysitting	52	Red Sox Trip	100
Annual Christmas Tree Lighting	200+	School Vacation Camps	137
Annual Easter Egg Hunt	200+	Senior Exercise	52
Annual Street Dance	200+	Skate Park Drop-Ins	1,000+
Boston Pops Holiday Concert	32	Snow Day Camps	20
Coed T-Ball	62	Snow Tubing Trip	39
Coed Youth Soccer	112	Summer Camp Can Do (Ages 6-14)	156
Community Center Drop-Ins	6,120	Summer Concert Series	1,000+
Counselor in Training Program	8	Summer Kiddie Can Do Camp (Age 5)	7
Fall Family Fun Fest	200+	Swim & Skate Trip	21
Family Entertainment Series	100+	Swim Lessons	170
Family Fun Night & Lot Dance	150+	Swim Team	20
Fun in the Sun Day	100+	Theatre Camp	30
Greetings from The Easter Bunny	29	Water Carnival	100
Gunstock Ski Program	54	Youth Gym & Fitness	28

The Community Center has provided a wonderful gathering place for our community and for people of all ages to play, socialize, learn, make decisions, and plan for our future needs.

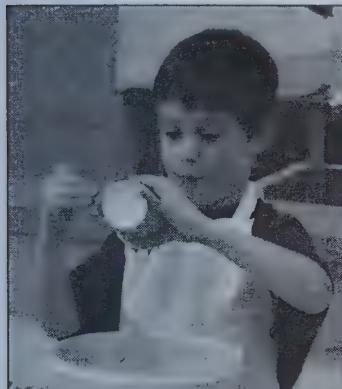
We look forward to working together with the community to help meet the demand and make the Community Center available to as many different user groups as reasonably possible.

As always I encourage you to get involved by sharing your thoughts and ideas with us and I look forward to working together as a community to provide quality recreational opportunities for all to enjoy now and into the future. Have a safe and healthy year in 2009.

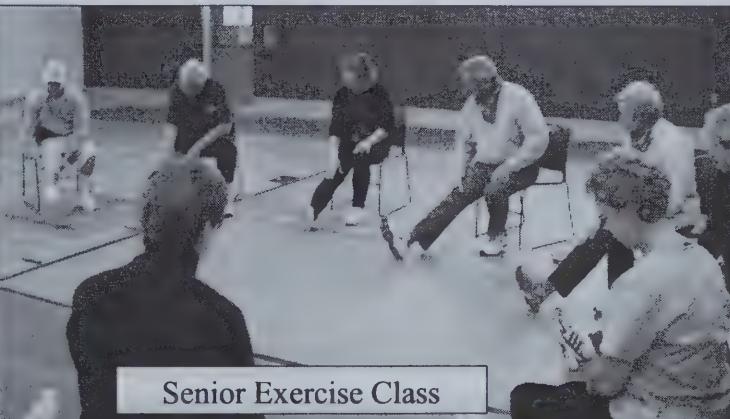
Sincerely,

Vint M. Choiniere, CPRP
Meredith Parks and Recreation Director

Parks and Recreation continued..



Simon The Master Chef



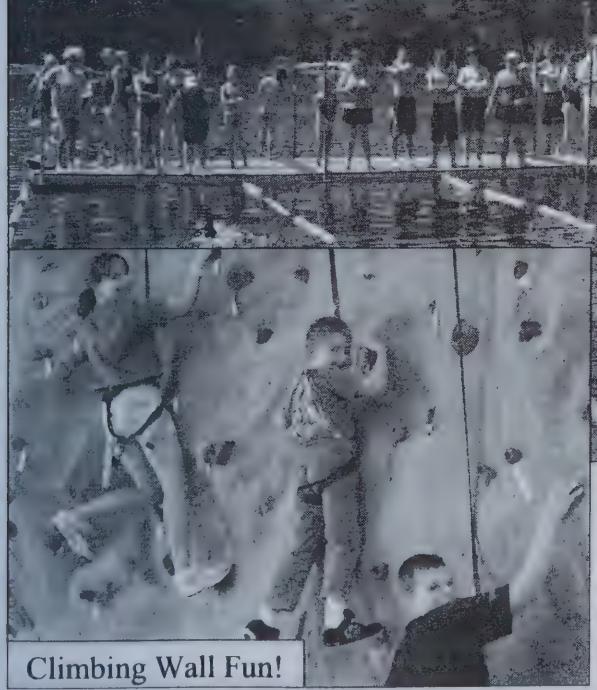
Senior Exercise Class



After School Program Moulton Farm Field Trip



Annual Family Skating Party



Climbing Wall Fun!



Swim Team Meet

Haley Screams, "I'm the Queen of the World"

Public Works - *Highway, Solid Waste, Cemetery, and Buildings & Grounds Divisions*

Highway: The near record snowfall of the 2007-2008 winter kept our crews hopping! Plow crews were called out 64 times in 2008 for plowing, sanding and salting the roads. In addition, snow was picked up and removed from the downtown area and side streets eight times. We recorded 179 inches of snow for the season. It was a pleasant spring with a short mud season during which we had very few problems this year. However, due to the hard winter we had to cut back on planned road projects. We were able to complete the Chase Road rebuilding and paving. In August we experienced extremely heavy rains and a 100 year storm event that caused flash flooding with extensive road damage. Our experienced crews were able to get the roads open and then rebuilt in record time. The hard work and dedication of our crews is greatly appreciated. We applied for and will receive reimbursement from FEMA for a good portion of our costs. We completed pavement overlays on Eaton Avenue and Cummings Cove Road, and Waukewan Street (a good portion had to be repaved due to the August storm). We are continuing with our culvert replacement program to ensure all of our town road drainage systems are kept in good working condition. Les Kelley retired from the highway crew after 20 years of service. Greg Pelczar was promoted to the position vacated by Les as the new Drainage Crew Chief. Fred Hawkins was moved up to replace Greg as Highway Maintainer III and James Frangelli was hired as Maintenance II.

Solid Waste: Our Recycling Facility continues to show good numbers and we thank all of our residents for their cooperation. As of November 30, 2008 we have shipped out 2,242.18 tons of trash, 1182.10 tons of demolition, 117.05 tons of cardboard, 72.45 tons of newspapers, and 16.0 tons of tin cans. All the rules and regulations for the facility are on line at meredithnh.org under the Solid Waste section.

Recyclable Material	Amount Recycled in 2008	Environmental Impact!
Paper	112 tons	Saved 1,901 trees!
Plastics	32.06 tons	Conserved 48,090 gallons of gas!
Scrap Metal	185 tons	Conserved 185,424 pounds of coal!
Steel Cans	46,620 lbs.	Conserved enough energy to run a 60 watt light bulb for 1,212,120 hours!

Cemetery: The cemetery crew focused on outlying cemeteries. With 89 small cemeteries to maintain in addition to the two major cemeteries in town they were kept quite busy. This past year we opened the new section of the Route 3 Cemetery for sale of burial lots. Highway crews assisted in constructing the gravel road to access this area. We are continuing the GPS mapping of our cemeteries and upgrading of all our cemetery records.

Buildings and Grounds: Our BG and Cemetery crews worked along with the highway crews during the August storms and floods when every hand was needed to repair damages town wide. The big focus for our division this year was cutting energy costs! We replaced all electric light bulbs town wide in all of our buildings, parks and walkways with the newest energy efficient bulbs. All our buildings, electrical and heating systems were thoroughly inspected and reviewed with representatives from NH Electric Cooperative and other fuel providers to see where we needed to tighten up and to save energy dollars. Also, a big cost savings will result from the conversion of all town Holiday lighting to the new LED bulbs this year.

All of our Public Works employees wish to extend their thanks to the residents of Meredith for their continued support and cooperation.

Mike Faller, Public Works Director

Town Clerk

2008 was very busy for The Town Clerk's Office. The Residents in Town have made the transition to a new Town Clerk , and Deputy Town Clerk very enjoyable and welcoming.

The Town of Meredith is now directly linked to the State of New Hampshire Motor Vehicle department which enables the processing of Vanity plates, Moose plates, overweight vehicles, Conservation plates, and many more services to meet the needs of our Residents. We look forward to implementing more services as they are available. We continue our education by attending conferences and meetings to stay up date with the changes in the laws of this State to continue to meet the needs of the community.

We look forward to assisting you in 2009!

Sincerely,

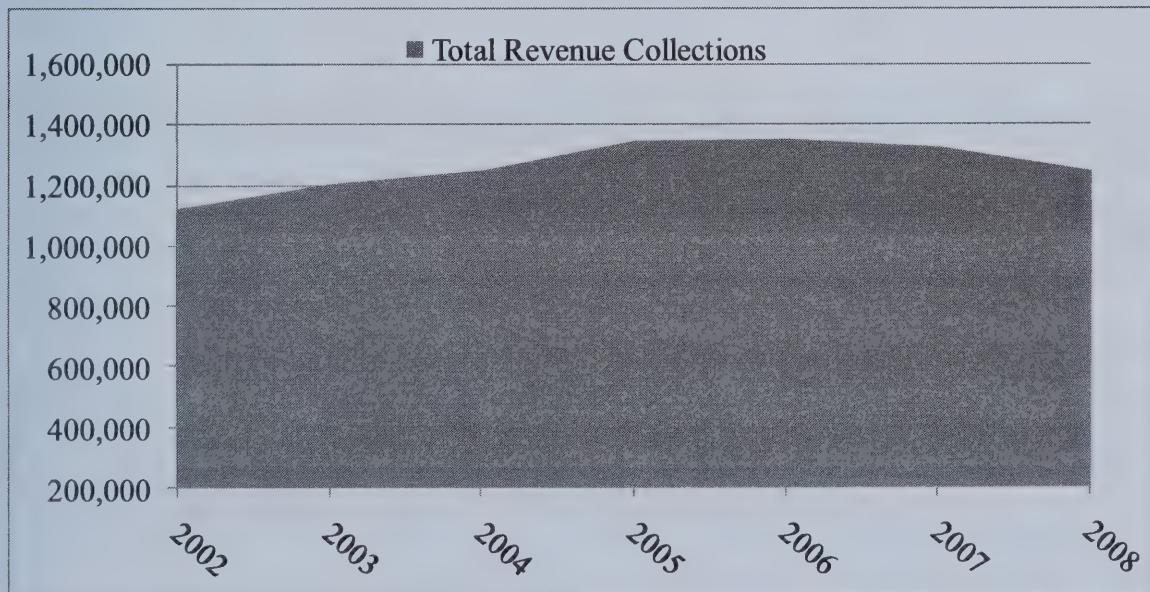
Kerri A Parker, Town Clerk

Julie Choiniere, Deputy Town Clerk

Vikki Fogg, Assistant

The 2008 Town Clerk Department Collections were as follows:

Motor Vehicle Registrations (9,900)	1,219,375
Dogs (980)	7,108
Vital Records (887)	9,604
Marriage Licenses (80)	3,735
Miscellaneous (Includes) (UCC filings, Aquatherm permits, Copies, Dredge & Fill Permits, Mailings, Notary and Justice Fees.)	4,056
Total Revenue Collected	1,243,878



Water and Sewer

Staff: Brian Carroll, Robert Hill, Daniel Cutting (retired), Chuck Wade, Lee Bavis, Donna Turner, and Nick Schwarz

It has been another active year for this Department. Our main effort has been and always will be, to insure the quality of the water to our customers. We are once again proud to announce that we were able to meet or exceed EPA and NHDES standards.

On the water side we are happy to report that over the past 12 months our staff along with the Water System Committee have found ways that have increase our water production, therefore not operating in a crisis mode. As stated in last year's report our water treatment plant is now more then 20 years old and is needed of our attention.

Projects completed last year include:

Upgrades to Water and /or Sewer mains were - Waukewan Avenue, High Street, Red Gate Lane and Water Street. Two other projects included the looping of the water mains between Kelly Lane, Circle Drive, Greemore Road and Route #25. These projects will give more flexibility to the distribution system in times of emergency.

Other water programs completed included a leak detection of the entire distribution system. The results indicated that we have a very tight system. The only leaks found were at main line valves and staff repaired these leaks. Finally, the last portion of the meter replacement program started and will be completed by April 2009.

The Wastewater collections system phase 1 inspection was completed. This report indicates that our system is in need of some upgrade or repair. Our staff will be starting a preventive maintenance program in order to keep up with the system.

On a personal note I wish to thank the staff of the Water & Sewer Department for all of their efforts during this time of transition and for the customers & citizens of Meredith for their patients & understanding. Our door is always open.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Carroll

Water System Committee - Meredith

In April 2008 at the request of the Board of Selectmen, the Meredith Water System Committee was formed consisting of five citizens and several members of the Town staff. The Board of Selectmen charged the committee to advise them on a wide range of operational, planning and policy issues regarding all aspects of the Meredith Water System. The work they requested is summarized in these five items:

1. Determine the capacity, capability and condition of all the elements of the existing water system.
2. Understand the Town's current water demand and usage patterns in relation to the system capabilities and calculate the Available Spare Capacity.
3. Recommend necessary actions to correct any deficiencies in the existing system to achieve rated system capacity and as efficient operation as practical.
4. Estimate the town's future demand and prepare a plan of action with costs and schedules to satisfy that demand.
5. Review the Water Use Ordinance and associated documents and policies making recommendations for change where appropriate.

Citizen members selected by the Board of Selectmen were Keith Forrester, Jonathan James, Richard Roman, Chuck Lowth and David Thorpe. In addition to the Town Manager, town staff members selected were Miller Lovett, Selectmen's Representative, Chuck Palm and Colette Worsman, Alternate Selectmen's Representatives, John Edgar, Manager of Community Development and Bob Hill, Water Superintendant. Unfortunately for a variety of personal and professional reasons Carol Granfield, Bob Hill, Keith Forrester and Richard Roman have resigned from the committee.

The Water and Sewer Department under the very capable leadership of Brian Carroll, our new Water Superintendant, is thoroughly and systematically assessing the capacity and condition of every element of the water treatment plant. They have found and corrected numerous problems with more evaluation and correction activities required over the next several months. Major improvements accomplished so far have reduced waste, improved operating efficiency and reduced cost dramatically.

The Water System Committee has determined the current average and maximum demand, seasonal variations and loss rate. With this knowledge and estimates of near term additional demands, Available Spare Capacity has been calculated showing the plant being capable of supplying the town's needs for the next several years. Loss rates have been fluctuating wildly over several years making estimates for the future difficult. Significant reductions in losses have been achieved recently, especially reductions in routine blow offs, so this factor will need to be watched carefully in the future.

Consumption by various types of business residential users, both on an account and per person bases, has been studied carefully by tracking past usage over several billing quarters. Using this data, combined with the known seasonal and maximum demand factors, a long term demand analysis is close to being completed. This will identify when existing installed capacity will be consumed, additional capacity possibly required and what the costs associated with that expansion would be.

Water System Committee - Meredith

The distribution system is currently under evaluation and will be compared to similar evaluations of the sewer system and the road system which is contained in the water service area. This collaborative evaluation will look for coincident needs to help set priorities, schedules and to reduce total project costs. Current work also includes updating the Water Use Ordinance, improved definition of the water service area and its physical map, a multi-year capital plan for submission to the CIP in their next planning cycle and an overview of the rate structure and its policies.

Contributions to this work by the citizens, selectmen and town staff members of this committee are greatly appreciated. Also very much appreciated is the dedication, spirit, positive attitude and attention given to this effort by the Water and Sewer Department employees – they have made, and continue to make, critical and valuable contributions to this effort and its results.

Respectfully submitted:

David Thorpe, Chairperson, Meredith Water System Committee

Village Pathway Committee

The Village Pathway Committee is relatively new and currently has 8 members. The committee is working towards establishing, enhancing and expanding pathways in Meredith with an emphasis on the downtown area and the surrounding recreation and community centers. The Committee promotes pedestrian and bicycle activity in the community and looks to establish connectivity between these centers for resident and visitors to use.

In the past year, the committee has developed a core group of members and has been working toward creating a Pathway Plan for Meredith. The Committee members have been gathering information and conducting research including compiling an inventory of the existing pathways and mapping several informal and potential pathways. In the summer of 2008 the Pathway Committee, in connection with the Parks and Recreation Committee, cleaned, cleared and marked the trails in Swasey Park.

In the upcoming year, the committee hopes to create a conceptual plan for pedestrian and bicycle pathways to link recreational, service centers, and other significant sectors of the downtown and adjacent areas with prioritization of recommended improvements. The committee will look to the public for input and work with the town to consider and implement the recommendations.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ginny Lovett- Chairman

Ann Brienza-Secretary

Members: Pamela Coburn, Mark Donohoe, Gerald Brooks, Dave Sias, Carol Gerken and Liz Lapham

American Legion Griggs/Wyatt Post 33

Legion Officers

Bob Kennelly, Commander Doug Bolinder, Sgt-at-Arms Ben Wyatt, 1st Vice Commander
Michael Gould, Judge Advocate Nat King, 2nd Vice Commander Henry Hall, Chaplin
Ryan Linke, Adjutant Timor Morrill, Historian Herb Vadney, Finance Officer
Chuck Thorndike, Commander Honor Guard

Ladies Auxiliary Officers

Robin Linke, President Amanda Rice, Treasurer Billie Jo Furbish, 1st Vice President
Kay Kennelly, Historian Jeanne Almieda, 2nd Vice President Mary Ballou, Sgt-at-Arms
Karen Casazza, Secretary Fran Milliken, Chaplin

Sons of the American Legion (S.A.L.) Officers

Jim Hurd, Commander Neal MacDonald, Chaplin Jeff Wyatt, Sr. Vice Commander
James Hurd, Historian Ron Linke, Jr., Jr Vice Commander Eric Riley, Sgt-At-Arms
Barry Weeks, Treasurer and Adjutant

The Post has been at 6 Plymouth Street for over 80 years and is one of the most consistent parts of Meredith history and as such we are committed to putting Veterans and the community of Meredith first. We have about 250 Legion members, about 120 Ladies Auxiliary members and about 55 S.A.L. members. All three organizations work together to try to make our Post a well run one. We have a canteen that is open to members and their guests 7 days a week with different operating hours every day. Our meetings are held at 7PM the first Tuesday of every month except July and August.

We work with the youth of the Meredith area through the schools, the Meredith Parks and Recreation Department and the Santa Fund.

We hope to get area residents interested in our activities which are as follows:

The Fishing Derby in February Memorial Day The Fourth of July
Meredith Home Day and Fine Arts & Crafts Festival in August
The Annual 9/11 Ceremony and Tribute Halloween Veterans Day Thanksgiving
Christmas New Years Eve and New Years Day

Please check the Meredith News, Laconia Daily Sun, the Laconia Citizen or at the Post for dates and times. Post phone number is 279-8503.

SUPPORTED OUTSIDE AGENCIES



**American
Red Cross**

The Granite Chapter serves communities covering 52 percent of New Hampshire, including the Concord area, Lakes Region and North Country. Chapter staff and volunteers provide support and relief after a disaster; emergency preparedness training; courses in health and safety; blood drives; volunteer and youth leadership opportunities; and aid to military families.

Red Cross trained volunteers make up the chapter's Lakes Region Disaster Action Team, which responds to disasters day or night in Meredith and surrounding towns. In all, the Granite Chapter has seven Disaster Action Teams with over 100 specially trained volunteers.

Disaster volunteers were on the scene of two residential fires in Meredith in fiscal year (July-June) 2008. They provided the families, including four children, with comfort and support for food, clothing, lodging and other critical needs. In all last year, our disaster volunteers helped 98 families/individuals, a total of 264 people including 107 children. More than 98 percent of all local disasters were residential fires.

Health and safety classes are held at the chapter office in Concord, the Belknap Mall and communities throughout our jurisdiction. Classes include CPR, First Aid, use of AEDs, Babysitter Training, Safe on My Own (for ages 8-11), Pet First Aid and more.

Last year in Meredith, Red Cross-authorized instructors taught classes on a variety of subjects. Two blood drives were held in Meredith last year. Caring and generous donors gave ---121 pints of life-saving blood. Last year in all the towns that we serve, there were 225 blood drives where donors gave a total of 12,749 pints of the "gift of life."

Submitted by: Rebecca Field, Director of Communications

Child and Family Services

During 2008, Child and Family Services provided 523 hours of service to 30 individuals. This was a significant increase over our service delivery to the community in 2007. Thanks to support from the Town of Meredith along with other charitable dollars and grants, we are able to provide these services, without regard to income. The funding provided by the Town of Meredith mainly supports our Family and Children's Counseling program, but makes it possible for us to offer a range of services to residents. In 2008 services requested by residents included: school based- substance abuse assessment, intervention and treatment for 9 adolescents, family and children's Counseling for 9 families, employment counseling, home based, family stabilization/foster care services for one family and Tracking services for 5 youth who had come to the attention of the court system as well as camperships for 2 children to attend two weeks of overnight camp at Camp Spaulding. Every dollar the community invests in Child and Family Services results in \$6.00 dollars in services delivered to the community. We continue to count on your help to be able to offer a full range of quality, professional services to children and their families who otherwise could not afford them.

Also, during 2008, we moved our annual Symposium to Meredith, hosting 200 professionals at Church Landing for a full-day continuing education program presented by Dr. Robert Woodall on the impact of trauma on children and research-based treatment methods that work best with children and teens. The 2009 Symposium, with Dr. Robert Brooks will focus on working with the Angry Child and will again be held at Church Landing on March 31, 2009. These annual seminars provide mental health, education, social services, medical professionals and youth workers with valuable, affordable in-service training opportunities without going to costly out-of-state conferences.

Our Lakes Region office is located at 95 Water Street in Laconia. For more information regarding our programs, please call 518-4000 or (800) 640-6486 or visit our website at www.cfsnh.org.

Belknap County CoRe Coalition

Community Response to alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use among youth in Belknap County

Dear Community of Meredith:

On behalf of the Belknap County CoRe Coalition I would like to express my gratitude to the Town of Meredith and community members for your continued support of CoRe. The Belknap County CoRe Coalition is dedicated to providing substance abuse prevention education, leadership opportunities, and positive role modeling to youth and their families in Belknap County. Funding from the Town of Meredith enables the coalition to provide community specific activities and events for youth of the Inter-Lakes School District. Two of the most recent activities have been the annual CoRe Fall Festival and Believe in Books Polar Express community service project.

CoRe hosted the annual Fall Festival and Home Coming Teen Dance in collaboration with the Inter-Lakes Varsity Football Organization on September 20th. The 2008 Fall Festival was huge success with numerous prevention activities, agency resource tables, and youth activities with 326 youth and families attending. Highlights of the event were with a golf cart demonstration where youth were able to physically drive the cart through an obstacle course wearing Fatal Vision Goggles with a Meredith Police Officer in the passenger seat. The same youth would also have to perform a series of activities typically associated with measuring “under the influence” during a traffic stop, such as walking a straight line and performing various sobriety checks. Another highlight was with Moultonborough Police Department and their Drug Dog, Rory. Youth and families enjoyed a training demonstration of Rory’s techniques of assisting his officer and finding hidden drugs.

Youth also participated in the third annual Believe in Books Polar Express community service project. This magical event had 28 Inter-Lakes youth and 5 adult volunteers dressed as Elves to greet children and families arriving by train to visit Santa at the North Pole! Many of the youth involved with Polar Express are also members of the After-Hours Youth Group at Inter-Lakes High School. This group participates in a variety of prevention and community service activities and they are currently making hot/cold packs for cancer patients of area medical centers. The After-Hours group has many more activities planned and you can view pictures of these and other events on our web site at www.interlakes.org/core as well as obtain valuable prevention resource information.

The Belknap County CoRe Coalition greatly appreciates the continued support from the Town of Meredith. In an effort to provide increased prevention education, CoRe also continues collaborative efforts with area partners to offer a variety of opportunities for youth as a whole in Belknap County. We invite and community members to attend our general coalition meetings the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Laconia Police Department Community Room, 7:30-9:00 A.M.

Respectfully,
Jena Vincent, M.Ed.
Belknap County CoRe Coalition Executive Director

SUPPORTED OUTSIDE AGENCIES



Community Health & Hospice (CH&H) is a non-profit homecare, hospice and community service agency serving all of Belknap County and several surrounding communities. We provide home based medical and supportive care using skilled and certified professionals through our four programs: Homecare, Hospice & Palliative Care, Young Family Pediatric, and Senior Support Services. The organization is licensed by the state of New Hampshire, certified by Medicare and Medicaid and accredited through the Community Health Accreditation Program.

Although some services receive reimbursement from Medicare and private health insurance companies, others are dependent on community and grant support. In particular, our Pediatric, Senior Support Services and Hospice & Palliative Care Programs rely on charitable contributions in order to be sustained. In addition to town funds, we receive funds from the Lakes Region United Way and local community service groups. We also conduct a number of fundraising activities to supplement those donations and maintain these services in communities.

Visit Data: During the year 2008, CH&H provided 198 Meredith residents with 2180 in-home visits by professionals or support service workers and 31 vaccine services to children and adults. Of those visits, over 500 were made to patients at the end of life through our Hospice and Palliative Care program. Over 200 visits were made to families with young children to connect them with a medical home or to provide essential health services. Over 400 visits were given to the elderly to help maintain them in a home setting rather than a nursing home.

Additionally, Community Health & Hospice partners with the Meredith Senior Center to conduct support groups for those caring for an elderly, frail or ill family member. The Meredith support group is very well attended and provides guidance as well as social support for those who are isolated in a caregiver role.

Finally, Community Health & Hospice staff are active in the regional emergency planning initiatives and chair the Medical Committee of this endeavor in order to design emergency preparedness efforts in response to health threats in Meredith and throughout the Lakes Region.

It continues to be a privilege to provide services to Meredith residents, and we are grateful for the support provided by the town to enable us to carry on these health-related community functions.

Submitted by:
Margaret Franckhauser, Executive Director

Emergency Management

2008 was a very active year for members of the Emergency Management team. Weather proved to be a major foe this year with the severe winter and then the heavy damage to roads and infrastructure due to the serious rain events and flooding in August. The new Public Health CERT Team was activated to provide needed support for people during these events. FEMA was called in to assess the damage and the Town was declared eligible for reimbursement of money spent to repair damages in many areas.

On November 8, the Lakes Region Partnership for Public Health held a free flu clinic at the Inter-Lakes High School. While it provided a service to our residents it also served as a test for emergency management services in our town to prepare for events which might require widespread vaccinations. It was quite a success and proved once again that Meredith is, indeed, prepared to take care of our residents.

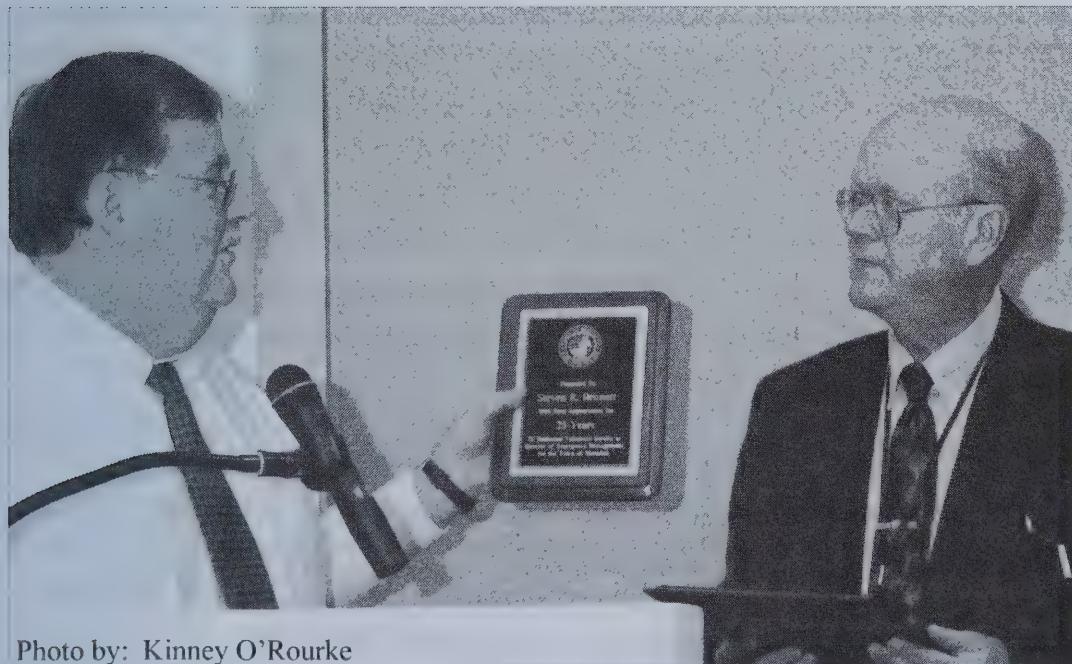
Then the ice storm of December created problems and power outages for us, but not to the extent found in communities just a few miles south of Meredith. Preplanning and a fast response from NH Electric Cooperative, the Meredith Police, Fire and Public Works Crews made a difficult situation tolerable for all of us here in Meredith.

With the assistance of the Lakes Region Planning Commission, work has just begun to update the Meredith Hazard Mitigation Plan to bring it up to the new standards set by the State of New Hampshire and FEMA. It is expected that this will be completed by late winter or early spring.

On behalf of Peter Russell and myself I would like to thank the community for all their help and patience, assisting the town and our neighbors to get through the many incidents that taxed us over the past year.

Submitted by:

Steven R. Bennett, Meredith Emergency Management Director
Peter Russell, Assistant Emergency Management Director



Peter Brothers,
Chairman of the
Board of
Selectman,
presents to Steve
Bennett an Award
of Appreciation
and Recognition
for twenty five
Years of Service as
Emergency
Management
Director for the
Town of Meredith.

Photo by: Kinney O'Rourke

SUPPORTED OUTSIDE AGENCIES

Genesis



One Life. One Family. One Community.

To the Residents of Meredith:

Thank you!!!

The appropriation that we received from the Town of Meredith's 2007 budget has helped us to cover the costs of providing mental health care to residents of your town who are unable to pay the full cost of their services. During Fiscal Year 2007 (ending June 30, 2007), a total of 216 Meredith residents came to Genesis seeking help for their mental health problems. Their ages break down as follows:

Age Range	Number of Clients
Ages 1 – 17	55
Ages 18 – 59	95
Age 60 and over	66
Total	216

At Genesis we strive to enhance the quality of life in our communities by providing services that promote recovery from mental illness and emotional distress, in collaboration with clients, families and our community partners. Our staff is accountable for placing individuals on the path to recovery from mental illness and aiding them in their daily lives throughout the process.

We specialize in individual and group counseling and psychiatric services. We work with our most persistently ill patients on basic life skills such as public interaction and stable employment. We help parents and children to foster strong family relationships. Working with local police and fire departments, we provide emergency services 24 hours a day 7 days a week to residents of any age who are going through a mental health crisis.

Your financial support has helped to support our work with children, families and adults. The services provided by Genesis Behavioral Health help improve the quality of life for so many and yet are rarely covered by insurance plans or state programs. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Margaret M. Pritchard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Margaret" on top, "M." in the middle, and "Pritchard" on the bottom line.

Margaret M. Pritchard
Executive Director

111 Church Street · Laconia NH 03246 · Tel 603/524-1100 · Fax 603/528-0760 · www.genesisbh.org

Greater Meredith Program

Thanks to a community that believes in itself and invests in its built environment, people, and programs that benefit Meredith, the Greater Meredith Program will successfully celebrate its five-year anniversary in 2009. *We would not be where we are today without the support of the municipality, business community, civic organizations, and our residents.*

There were several outstanding achievements in 2008 that positively impacted the community. The first notable accomplishment for the community was the NH Preservation Alliance Award. The award recognized the Town of Meredith for outstanding public policy, education and planning, and noted the Greater Meredith Program and Latchkey Charities as key partners.

Another notable achievement was the creation of the Meredith Beautification and Conservation Fund, thanks to Rusty McLear, Chuck Palm, and other lodging partners. Participating lodging establishments in Meredith (Harbor Hill Camping Area, Meredith Bed & Breakfast, The Inns & Spa at Mill Falls) charge overnight guests a voluntary fee and funds collected are used for beautification and conservation efforts in Meredith. Thus far, over \$10,000 has been invested back into the community including doggie waste receptacles at Hesky Park, \$5K for the Meredith Community Center Garden Project, a contribution to the Page Pond campaign, sponsorship of the All America Selections Display Garden at the Meredith Public Library, and flower boxes on the bridge rails on Route 3 in Meredith.

Also in 2008, the GMP Design Committee spearheaded a major beautification effort, the Meredith Community Center Garden Project. Most impressive about this project is the number of businesses and individuals inside and outside the community that contributed to this \$60K+ project. The development of this site turned a relatively barren landscape into a beautiful garden while simultaneously enhancing the northern gateway to the town. The use of native species will promote the issue of sustainability and minimize future maintenance and watering. In addition, the garden will serve as an educational tool for the public to learn about the benefits and opportunities of gardening with native plants. No town resources or funds were used in this project, although the Meredith Parks & Recreation staff and town leaders were involved in the planning and coordination of the project.

The Design Committee also created the Meredith Village Façade & Site Improvement Program and hope to make grant awards in 2009. The Community Economic Development Committee continued its work on the development of the Route 104 project, the Career Partnership Program, hosted merchant education workshops for the business community including the Barbara Wold event and “Codes, Ordinances, & Permits,” and developed the Meredith Business Ambassador Guide. The Promotion Committee implemented programs that encouraged community involvement (Family Fun Fest, the Meredith in Bloom Festival, Halloween in Meredith, and A December to Remember), managed the Flower Barrels in the Village District program, and created the Thursday Nights Live! on Main Street retail promotion to assist merchants.

Finally, the Organization continued its fundraising activities to underwrite the various community projects. Projects included the Christmas Card sales, the Ice Out Raffle, the Ray Burton Roast, and a game show.

The GMP Board of Directors is pleased to report that with the help of so many in the community (and outside the community), we have invested over \$113,000 back into programs and projects that benefit Meredith.

Jeanie Forrester, Executive Director

Inter-Lakes Day Care Center & Nursery School

Inter-Lakes Day Care Center and Nursery School is a non-profit, fully licensed, non-denominational, tax-exempt community child care and education agency incorporated in 1971. Inter-Lakes Day Care Center promotes child development and family support for working parents through comprehensive infant, toddler, preschool, and school age developmentally appropriate curriculum, engaging children in activities that provide learning and brain development opportunities while nurturing knowledge. Special events this year included the NH Squam Lakes Science Center's presentation on "Fur, Feathers, and Scales" for our preschoolers and Seven Upper Club and a live visit of a barred owl, a painted turtle, and an opossum which all the children were excited to see up close. A visit from the UNH Marine Mammals SeaTrek Program, second in a series of science programs that tie in with our Nature Studies and Environment curriculum was greatly enjoyed by both preschoolers and school age children, who learned about the similarities and differences between whales and themselves through interactive hands-on activities in small groups.

Inter-Lakes Day Care Center is open on a year-round basis at two sites, from 6:30am to 5:30pm, making it possible for parents to maintain employment. The Center offers a full range of services including morning preschool programs, full and part-time child care, summer and vacation enrichment camp, and USDA approved healthy snacks and hot meals. Guided by a professional staff, the children receive an educational program along with the services of health care, special needs care, dental care, and transportation for kindergarten. Through the State of New Hampshire and the Child Care Development Block Grant, sliding fee scale tuition (based on family size and income) is available for parents who are employed, in training, pursuing a degree or certificate, on job search or temporarily disabled. Our center also sponsors the Inter-Lakes Family Daycare Nutrition Program, facilitating federal reimbursement from USDA for a group of licensed home daycare providers who serve approved meals and snacks while providing care for children of working parents.

On behalf of the Board of Directors we extend our sincere thanks to the Town of Meredith for its continued support of our agency for residents of Meredith.

Kidworks Learning Center

Kidworks Learning Center is a non-profit childcare center for children ages 6 weeks to 12 years. We offer a before and after school program, as well as our own unique vacation and summer programs. Our philosophy is to provide a stimulating environment for children to learn and express themselves with an emphasis on self-esteem. A variety of activities are provided that gives each child an opportunity to progress at his or her own pace in the major areas of development: emotional, social, cognitive, physical and speech/language. We try to implement community outreach programs in our curriculum to instill the importance of helping others and our community. The center provides services for over ninety families in the Lakes Region, a majority of the families living or working in Meredith. Kidworks provides the families with not only quality care and education, but with USDA approved breakfasts, snacks and lunches. In conjunction with the New Hampshire State Scholarship Program, we are able to provide reduced tuition rates for families in need of assistance.

This year the center strived to make important safety enhancements to the center. Through the generosity of the Town of Meredith, The Rotary Club, the Kidworks families, staff and community we were able to complete the safety improvements at the center. Kidworks has also been able to replace curriculum materials and equipment.

On behalf of the families, staff, Board of Directors and friends of Kidworks Learning Center we would like to thank you for the continued support of our program.

Laconia Motorcycle Week Association

The Laconia Motorcycle Week Association is a non-profit promotional organization for Motorcycle Week, the Lakes Region and State of New Hampshire. Throughout each year, we travel to the International Motorcycle Trade Shows, with attendance at over 400,000 people, at the following locations: New York, Minneapolis, Atlanta, Cleveland, Chicago, St. Louis, Daytona Beach, Baltimore, Denver, and Boston in order to promote this area and the Oldest National Rally, Motorcycle Week. As well as the trade shows, this Association promotes Motorcycle Week, the Lakes Region and the State of New Hampshire through an advertising campaign in trade magazines throughout the United States and Canada. Each year, two editions of the Laconia Rally News are printed at 100,000 copies each edition and distributed to a direct market around the world. This magazine gives helpful information for first time visitors to the area as well as those who return each year. A motel list is located on the Official website of the Rally with various lodging information from Laconia, Meredith, and across the State. Our Association received a matching grant through the Joint Promotional Program of the State of NH's Department of Travel and Tourism for 2007 and also have received approval for our application for JPP for 2008. One of our project goals for this grant is to increase overnight stays to the Lakes Region and the State of NH. The Official Motorcycle Week website www.laconiaMCweek.com averages well over a hundred thousand hits per month and offers links to other venues including information on our board members such as, the town of Meredith.



Appropriated funds received from the town of Meredith as Board Member dues, allow this Association to have a continued partnership with the town in order to offer the Association's assistance in items to do with the Rally. The successfulness and sustainability of Motorcycle Week is made possible through our sponsors and Board members such as the Town of Meredith.

For the last three years, the Laconia Motorcycle Week Association has enjoyed the Welcoming Motorcycle Week press conference at Meredith Harley-Davidson in Meredith. This press conference has been attended by the Governor as well as many other State of NH dignitaries for the past two years and this effort has brought great media attention to the town of Meredith prior to the Rally.

We will be celebrating the 86th Anniversary of Laconia Motorcycle Week in 2009. With this 'soft' economy, we are looking to remain strong and stable as we have for the past two years. If we can be of any assistance to the Town for Meredith, please feel free to contact us.

The 86th Anniversary of Laconia Motorcycle Week is
June 13th – 21st, 2009

Thank you!

Charlie St. Clair
Executive Director

SUPPORTED OUTSIDE AGENCIES

Lakes Region Planning Commission

The Lakes Region continues to grow and evolve. Homes and businesses have expanded along major roadways, and many of our communities have experienced dramatic changes. The Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC) is an organization established to provide area communities and region with the capability to respond to and shape the pressures of change in a purposeful way. With a service area covering over 1,200 square miles in Belknap, Carroll, Grafton and Merrimack Counties, the LRPC provides a wide range of planning services to member municipalities. The Commission offers direct and support services including technical assistance, geographic information systems, transportation planning, land use, environmental planning, hazard planning and economic development. Local, state, and federal resources primarily fund the LRPC.

We also maintain a regular dialogue with state agencies as a resource for the entire Lakes Region. Our overall goal is to provide support, knowledge, and leadership to the governments, businesses, and citizens of the Lakes Region.

Meredith Chamber of Commerce

The Meredith Area Chamber of Commerce consists of over 340 businesses that are organized to advance and promote the commercial, industrial, service, professional, tourism, and retail interests of Meredith and its trade area. While many of the activities of the Chamber are tourist related, all segments of the business community make up the membership. Members are listed on the Chambers web site-www.meredithcc.org. and in various specialty guides produced by the Chamber. The Chamber office is located at 272 Daniel Webster Highway and is on a year round basis. Visitors to the Center find a wide array of promotional literature about the Lakes Region. Staffing the Center in 20078 were Jean Greenlaw, Stephanie Whiting, and Molly Landigan..

Again this year, the Chamber conducted a national advertising campaign designed to entice people to visit the area and we produced and distributed 225,000 copies of a four color, 28 page, high quality brochure. The 2008 Meredith Area brochure was distributed at high traffic tourist attractions in Vermont, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts, at corporate locations in New England and New York, and in the hotels in the Greater Boston area. The brochures are also at the state rest areas and the Manchester Airport Visitor Center and mailed out in response to inquiries received at the Chamber. All advertising materials contain the Chamber's web address, www.meredithcc.org and our toll free number.

Chamber sponsored events included the Lakes Region Fine Arts and Crafts Festival, the Fourth of July Fireworks, Meredith Area Community Golf Tournament, Margaritaville in Meredith, The Community Yard Sale, and the Awards Ceremony at the Annual Meeting. Regular Business After Hours and Breakfast Forums were held and The Marine Services Guide, the Around the Town Map, the Wedding Guide, the Professional Guide and the Service Guide were all continued.

The Chamber greatly appreciates the support of the community for its many activities and is especially appreciative of the cooperation and assistance received from the various departments of the town in carrying out its many projects.

Susan Cerutti
Executive Director

Meredith Community Action Program

During the past year, we have provided \$841,650 in services to Meredith residents. Our major concern has always been, and will continue to be, the delivery of needed services to the elderly, handicapped and low-income residents of the community. Some of the services we provide are administration of the Fuel Assistance Program, the Women, Infants and Children Program, congregate meals at the Senior Center, Meals on Wheels, Emergency Food Pantry. For more information, please contact 279-4096.

We wish to thank the Town of Meredith for its continued support.

Sincerely,
Prudence Tylenda, Area Director

Meredith Historical Society

The purpose of the Society is the collection and preservation of the history of Meredith. This includes preserving landmarks, valuable books, manuscripts, photographs, prints, textiles, relics and other articles related to the history of Meredith. The Society sponsors programs and activities that increase awareness of Town history and maintains the Pottle Meeting House, operating as the Farm Museum, and the Main Street Museum to house our collection.

The funds for maintaining the artifacts and the two museums buildings are provided by donations from members and other interested parties. Sums designated as trust funds and bequests are encouraged, as they enable the Society to hold such amounts in trust and use only the interest as needed. The Town generously provides funds to assist in the payment of the greeter for our Main Street Museum during the summer.

The Main Street museum is open from Memorial Day to Columbus Day four days a week from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The Farm Museum is open Wednesday and Saturday afternoons during the summer and from Labor Day to Columbus Day on Saturdays from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM and is staffed by volunteers. From April through November, on the first Tuesday at 7:30 PM of each month, the Society holds an educational program. The topics included Meredith School Days: Then and Now, Runaway Wives: When Colonial Marriages Failed and New Hampshire's President Franklin Pierce finds a New Place in History. These programs were followed with: What We Should Know about Islam, The Great Summer Hotels of the White Mountains, Angling in the Smile of the Great Spirit and finally Preserving Your Family's Memories through Pictures, Documents and Artifacts.

This year, the clapboard siding on the Highland Street side of the Main Street Museum has been replaced. When the old clapboards were removed, we found water had gotten between the old siding and the tar paper barrier. A few areas that exhibited rot were replaced with new boards. A new Tyvec vapor barrier was installed and then a layer of "cedar breather" was installed. The cedar breather is designed to provide a channel for any moisture to "drip" or seep out from behind the new clapboards. New cedar clapboard siding was installed over the vapor barrier and cedar breather. After the siding was installed, the whole building was painted with two coats of paint.

The Society would like to thank the many volunteers for their help to catalogue articles, clean textiles, organize exhibits, create window displays, host the Farm Museum, provide refreshments for the meetings, bake for the bake sales and help maintain the buildings.

We are also very thankful to the Town of Meredith for their support.

George Jewell, President

SUPPORTED OUTSIDE AGENCIES

Meredith Public Health Nursing Association

MPHNA, founded in 1923, is a Medicare, Medicaid, BC/BS approved and State Licensed non-profit agency that provides Skilled Nursing, Psychiatric Nursing, Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Medical Social Worker, Licensed Nurses Aide, and Homemaker Service to the residents of Meredith and Center Harbor.

Board of Directors include: Richard Harlow, President; Max Jenness, Vice-President;
Jean Greenlaw, Secretary; Robert Laferriere, Treasurer; Janis Roberts, Asst Treasurer;
Phyllis Hamblet, Thomas Pryor, Frances Secord, Virginia Stephens, and James Wallace.

Our staff includes: Andréa Huertas, RN, BS, Executive Director; Malissa Priestley-Carey, RN, BS;
Cherylanne Gonzalo, RN BSN; Eileen Moore ,RN, MS; Harriet Redmond, MS, ARNP;
Cecile Andrews, RN; Francine Hirschfield, RN; Nancy Gallagher RN, MS;
Betsy Livingstone, MSW, Joanne McLean, PT; Renee Colby, PT; Clare Persson, OT;
Sheila Grad, LNA; Donna Bilodeau, LNA; Cindy Johnson, LNA; Pamela Wyatt, LNA;
Dale Connolly, Office Manager; Annette Paine, Office Asst., and Aglaia Rouvalis Office Clerk

.Services in Meredith during 2008 include:

3103	RN Home Visits
3	Young Family (Pediatrics)
728	Physical Therapy
649	Occupational Therapy
3502	LNA Home Visits
305	Homemaker Services
8	Medical Social Worker
466	Weekends & Evenings
408	Office Visits

Memorial gifts were received in memory of:

Rebecca Anderson, Edward Barbato, John Bonner, Gil Clark, Charles Edson, Richard Dieterich, M. Dexter Hale, Bradley Hatch, Eleanor Heirrech, Roy Howe, Sr., Arlene Lamper, Richard Miller, Albert Moore, Dorothy Morten, John Parry, Leonard Schavone, Barbara Stuetzer, and Frances Taylor.

This year we also offered a flu clinic not only at our office but at the Meredith Community Center and for various businesses providing over 400 influenza vaccines to the residents of Meredith.

A sincere thank you is extended to the residents of Meredith and our many volunteers for their continued strong support of our agency.

Andréa R. Huertas
Executive Director

New Beginnings - A Women's Crisis Center

On behalf of New Beginnings I would like to thank the citizens of the Town of Meredith for their continued support. Your allocation has enabled us to continue to provide 24-hour crisis support, outreach, and assistance to victims of domestic and sexual assault in all of Belknap County.



Our organization operates a full-time shelter, staffs a 24-hour crisis line, provide advocacy at court, hospitals, and police stations, social service advocacy, and offers peer support groups for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. We also run community and school based education programs. We are members of the Belknap County Family Violence Prevention Forum, a task force made up of community members and professionals initiated by the Governor's Commission to take a stand against domestic and sexual violence in our county.

New Beginnings had advocated and staff in Belknap County courts each working day of this budget year. New Beginnings volunteers donated over 20,215 service hours. All services are provided free of charge.

Submitted by:
Kathy Keller, Executive Director

Services

A 24-Hour Crisis Line answered by trained volunteers and staff who offer non-judgmental support and information about options and services available.

Support Groups offered on an ongoing basis for those whose lives have been affected by domestic or sexual violence.

Court Advocacy is provided by trained volunteers and staff who offer support and assistance in obtaining protective orders and during other court appearances.

Emergency Shelter is available to fleeing victims who are in need of temporary housing. Transportation to shelter can be provided.

24-Hour Accompaniment at the hospital and police departments for victims seeking support.

Educational Programs are provided at no cost to schools, community groups, social service agencies, hospital personnel, law enforcement, and others interested in learning about domestic and sexual violence.

Emergency Assistance like food pantry, clothing, etc. are offered to victims of domestic or sexual violence.

www.newbeginningsnh.org
603-528-6511

24-hour domestic violence support line: 1-866-644-3574

24-hour sexual violence support line: 1-800-277-5570

SUPPORTED OUTSIDE AGENCIES

New Hampshire Association for the Blind

The New Hampshire Association for the Blind was founded in 1912, in Hancock, NH.

The mission of the New Hampshire Association for the Blind is to advance the independence of persons who are blind and visually impaired.

The New Hampshire Association for the Blind is the only statewide, private, non-profit organization that provides vision rehabilitation services to people of all ages who are blind or have severe vision impairments.

The Association is fully accredited by the National Accreditation Council for Agencies Serving the Blind and Visually Impaired.

The Association provides counseling & referral, rehabilitation teaching, orientation & mobility instruction, low vision services, assistive technology, volunteer services, as well as education services for school-age children.

The Association's professional staff provided 31, 228 hours of program service to 1,493 individuals. An additional 590 persons participated in group services.

During FY 2008, the Association reported 62 clients living in Meredith. Seven clients in Meredith received a total of 19 authorizations for direct service during 2008. 68% of clients are women; 32% are men and 50% of clients are between the ages of 70 and 89, with 65% of our clients between the ages of 70-99. Volunteers provided 2,561 service hours. Of the major eye conditions, 36% of clients suffer from Macular Degeneration, 16% from Cataract, 11% from Glaucoma, 8% from Diabetic Retinopathy, 2% from Retinitis Pigmentosa and 23% from all other eye conditions.

This year, the Association received 542 new referrals averaging 45 per month. Public education presentations were made to 5,871 people. 30% of clients have incomes of less than \$10,000 and 39% have incomes ranging from \$10,000 - \$20,000. No one is ever denied access to services due to inability to pay, and services are provided in every community of New Hampshire and along the borders, for as long as they are needed. 78% of funding comes from philanthropic contributions from individuals, private foundation grants, trusts, corporate grants, civic and service organizations.

All funds raised in New Hampshire stay in New Hampshire.

Submitted by:
Nancy Burgess, Development Associate

The New Hampshire Association for the Blind, McGreal Sight Center, 25 Walker Street, Concord, NH
1-603-224-4039 EXT: 322 1-800-464-3075 (Toll Free in NH) www.sightcenter.org

Make the most of every sense:

Glory in all the pleasures and beauty the world reveals to you.

Helen Keller

New Hampshire Humane Society

The New Hampshire Humane Society (NHHS) provides numerous services to the residents and companion animals in the Town of Meredith. Strays are safely housed for 7 days (cats 3 days) prior to becoming available for adoption to the public. NHHS takes in owner-relinquished pets by appointment and matches the animal with the best adoptive home.

Our animals are not euthanized for reasons of space or time. All animals receive a full medical evaluation and vaccinations. Dogs are tested for heartworm and receive preventative medicine, wormed and treated for fleas/ticks. Cats are FIV/Feline Leukemia tested, receive all vaccinations, flea/tick treatment and wormed. All available animals are spayed/neutered on site.

We offer the residents of your town an alternative to releasing their animal to the streets when they can no longer care for them. Quarantine facilities are made available to the town as well as animal cruelty investigation. Educational programs are offered to town schools and civic organizations. If you are interested in any of the programs, please call the administrative offices at (603) 524-8236 or contact the shelter at (603) 524-3252.

Respectfully submitted,
Claudia Abdinoor, Executive Director

Winnipesaukee Wellness Center

The Winnipesaukee Wellness Center members thank you for your continued support of the Center in 2008. As you may know, the Winnipesaukee Wellness Center is a medically supervised program that is a self-supporting department of Lakes Region General Hospital. Its mission is to promote health responsibility, to provide a safe, comfortable site to exercise, to provide ongoing support and encouragement of healthy lifestyle habits and to promote active lifestyles. The Center leases about 2,400 square feet from the Christian Fellowship Church on Bean Road on the Center Harbor/Moultonboro town lines. An Advisory Committee consisting of members, interested community members, and LRGH management team meet monthly and oversee the Center's operations.

The Center depends on the support from surrounding towns and fundraisers to keep the member fees affordable for members of the community. In 2008 20 per cent of the membership live in Meredith and benefit from the services available to them at the Center. The members range in age from 38-94. The Center is open three days per week on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 6am to 4pm. The program is not just an exercise program as the members benefit from the oversight and experience of a Registered Nurse and Exercise Specialist. The monthly fee for the program is \$45.00 per person and \$75.00 per couple. Financial assistance is available to those who qualify.

We invite you to come and see the Center in action during the regular hours of operation or call 253-1839 for information.

Sincerely,
The Winnipesaukee Wellness Center Advisory Committee

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

<i>Date of Birth</i>	<i>Child's Name</i>	<i>Father's Name</i>	<i>Mother's Name</i>
01/05/08	Melody Grace Beam	Joshua Beam	Amanda Follansbee
01/22/08	Evan Allen Northcutt	Troy Northcutt	Elaina Jordan
02/01/08	Jenna Kourtney Drake	Timothy Benoit	Jennifer Drake
02/15/08	Leeana Aubrey Clark	Lee Clark	Ashley Clark
02/22/08	Milo Joseph Greene	Joseph Hodges	Valerie Greene
02/27/08	Amber Ann Cram	Brian Cram	Paula Cram
03/18/08	Gracie Noelle Hoyt	John Hoyt	Holly Ellsworth
04/11/08	Shawn Allen Greenwood	Chad Greenwood	Jessica Cook
04/15/08	Cole Michael Dembiec	Dwayne Dembiec	Andrea Vachon
04/15/08	Matthew James Kelley	Matthew Kelley	Rachel Kelley
05/05/08	Peyton Sandra Rolfe	Christopher Rolfe	Melissa Rolfe
05/21/08	Aaliyah Leigh Deware	Christopher Deware	Cristie Glueck
06/07/08	Nolan Patrick Harrington	John Harrington	Shelby Harrington
06/20/08	Alison Maria Tichy	Roland Tichy	Amanda Tichy
06/30/08	Paige Marie Lafavre	James Lafavre	Amy Lafavre
07/02/08	Daniel Joseph Weeks	Andrew Weeks	Joan Weeks
07/05/08	Kiera Louise Moynihan	Dermot Moynihan	Chantelle Moynihan
07/14/08	Kaylen Raeya Kiviniemi	Andrew Kiviniemi	Autumn Dyer
08/12/08	Olivia Kate Flanders	Mark Flanders	Nicole Flanders
09/21/08	Miranda Lynn Piper	Arnold Piper	Denise Doherty
10/02/08	Gavin Joseph Herne	Joseph Herne	Heather Avery
10/03/08	William Frederick Fuller	William Fuller	Rebecca Fuller
10/08/08	Caedance Grace Curran	Dalton Curran	Crystal Delrossi
10/15/08	Quinn Davis Adams	Christopher Adams	Tianna Adams
11/18/08	Caleb Chase Alley	Jereme Alley	Lani Alley
11/22/08	Brandon Wayne Kimball	Alex Kimball	Sara Weeks
12/01/08	Danielle Mae Cornelissen	Jason Cornelissen	Carrie Cornelissen
12/16/08	Michael Stephen Stuart	Stuart, Shawn	Stuart, Faith
12/16/08	Noah Arthur Couturier	Couturier, Patrick	Armes, Sarah
12/16/08	Peyton Mae Harper	Dustin Harper	Melanie Frazier

Marriages

<i>Date of Marriage</i>	<i>Groom's Name</i>	<i>Groom's Residence</i>	<i>Brides Name</i>	<i>Brides Residence</i>
02/14/08	Kenneth L. Maccabee	Meredith, NH	Calista M. Fogg	Meredith, NH
02/15/08	Gary S. Brown	Meredith, NH	Debra L. Horne	Meredith, NH
03/01/08	Andrew J. Weeks	Meredith, NH	Joan A. Clinton	Meredith, NH
03/15/08	Christopher Burnell	Meredith, NH	Lewana C. Lariosa	Meredith, NH
03/21/08	Joshua B. Blackler	Meredith, NH	Abigayle L. Cox	Meredith, NH
03/22/08	Gregory A. Egbert	Meredith, NH	Deborah L. Dickinson	Ashland, NH
03/24/08	Peter G. Saber	Meredith, NH	Emma N. Thompson	Meredith, NH
04/25/08	Timothy D. Raxter	Meredith, NH	Shelly M. Cooper	Meredith, NH
06/07/08	James S. Morash	Meredith, NH	Carol M. Robb	Meredith, NH
06/08/08	James W. Seward	Norton, MA	Amanda A. Rauschnot	Meredith, NH
06/19/08	Jereme C. Alley	Meredith, NH	Lani N. Fennell	Meredith, NH
06/21/08	Mark S. Head	Meredith, NH	Jennifer E. Reczek	Meredith, NH
07/04/08	Adam H. Alibrio	Meredith, NH	Jenny M. Davis	Meredith, NH
07/05/08	Mario M. Suarez	Meredith, NH	Pamela J. Coburn	Meredith, NH
07/07/08	Uwe M. Larrabee	Germany	Kristan C. Julius	Meredith, NH
07/12/08	Mark D. Larrabee	Meredith, NH	Carrie E. Constant	Tilton, NH
07/19/08	Kevin P. Masse	Meredith, NH	Diana P. Plante	Meredith, NH
07/20/08	Alfred E. Galietta	Meredith, NH	Holly N. Titus	Meredith, NH
07/23/08	Jeffrey W. Trent	Meredith, NH	Crystalynn Johnson	Meredith, NH
07/26/08	Wilfred O. Guitar	Enfield, NH	Linda L. Chapin	Meredith, NH
08/09/08	Erik J. Hoyt	Meredith, NH	Traci A. Weeks	Meredith, NH
08/09/08	James R. Nicosia	Meredith, NH	Karolyn A. Kinane	Meredith, NH
08/09/08	Brendan M. Olden	Meredith, NH	Abigail Greenbaum	Meredith, NH
08/09/08	Joel B. Brown	Meredith, NH	Michelle L. Haire	Moultonboro, NH
08/16/08	Peter C. Thorndike	Meredith, NH	Laura M. Benoit	Meredith, NH
08/16/08	Kyle W. Jackman	Meredith, NH	Amanda L. Manifold	Meredith, NH
08/23/08	Adam C. Peaslee	Sandwich, NH	Kendra A. Horton	Meredith, NH
08/30/08	David R. Hill	Meredith, NH	Megan L. Uhlenberg	Meredith, NH
08/30/08	Scott W. Frank	Meredith, NH	Ann Marie Caouette	Meredith, NH
08/30/08	John K. Bird	Meredith, NH	Judith R. Gagnon	Meredith, NH

VITAL STATISTICS

Marriages continued...

<i>Date of Marriage</i>	<i>Grooms Name</i>	<i>Groom's Residence</i>	<i>Brides Name</i>	<i>Brides Residence</i>
09/07/08	Charles G. Fournier	Laconia, NH	Patricia Trudel	Meredith, NH
09/10/08	Michael S. Grier	Meredith, NH	Anne E. Morris	Meredith, NH
09/13/08	Kevin E. Shute	Meredith, NH	Blythe S. Caruso	Meredith, NH
09/20/08	Jeffrey A. Sirles	Meredith, NH	Tracey A. Lovering	Franklin, NH
09/27/08	Keith D. True	Meredith, NH	Tonia L. Sorell	Meredith, NH
10/04/08	Ruthven F. Tibbetts	Meredith, NH	Lesle M. Dunn	Meredith, NH
10/12/08	Gregory H. Smith	Concord, NH	Iliana R. Rivas-Picon	Meredith, NH
10/18/08	Ronald G. Sirles	Meredith, NH	Lisa M. Grace	Meredith, NH
10/18/08	Neil D. Ide	Laconia, NH	Kimberly L. Madigan	Meredith, NH
10/18/08	Kieran G. Altieri	Meredith, NH	Sara Gianetti	Meredith, NH
10/25/08	Robert H. Stephens	Meredith, NH	Jessica L. Novak	Meredith, NH
11/01/08	Benjamin R. Demark	Meredith, NH	Christy A. Latulippe	Meredith, NH
11/15/08	Jason A. Grinavic	Meredith, NH	Christian J. Shaw	Franklin, NH
12/06/08	Dennis C. Donovan	Meredith, NH	Nancy J. Wrath	Meredith, NH
12/31/08	Armand J. Peters	Meredith, NH	Alice S. Whisler	Gorham, NH

Deaths

<i>Date of Death</i>	<i>Decedent's Name</i>	<i>Place of Death</i>	<i>Father's Name</i>	<i>Mother's Maiden Name</i>
01/05/08	Michael Ferris Jr	Laconia	Michael Ferris	Mabel Deeb
01/12/08	Blanche Lamere	Meredith	Harry Cummings	Bernice Hooker
01/18/08	William King	Concord	William King	Velma Hudson
01/22/08	Susan French	Laconia	Ernest Hagland	Laura Todd
01/27/08	Keith L Matheson	Meredith	Alfred Matheson	Tressel Reynolds
01/29/08	Vivian Wilczak	Meredith	Charles Laura	Sarah Unknown
02/02/08	Ellen Ladd	Meredith	Leon Hutchinson	Etta Walker
02/04/08	Catherine Castle	Meredith	James Byrne	Edith Laing
02/14/08	Elizabeth Stickney	Meredith	Wallace Kirk	Maybeth Bailey
02/14/08	Florence Osborne	Meredith	Nicholas Dribnack	Mary Petrus
02/20/08	Joyce Coyne	Plymouth	Charles Sanborn	Dora Hamel
02/26/08	Duncan Campbell	Laconia	Duncan Campbell	Etta Alexander
02/27/08	Norma Manning	Meredith	Claude Butterfield	Hazel Weymouth

Deaths

continued...

<i>Date of Death</i>	<i>Decedent's Name</i>	<i>Place of Death</i>	<i>Father's Name</i>	<i>Mother's Maiden Name</i>
03/04/08	Virginia Luce	Meredith, NH	Fred Peasley	Antoinette Lapointe
03/06/08	Edward Barbato	Laconia, NH	Louis Barbato	Harriet Vogel
03/06/08	John Beaver	Meredith, NH	Rudolph Beaver	Helen Kellam
03/10/08	Loretta Valorose	Meredith, NH	Henry Gregoire	Emma Brule
03/11/08	Irene Vaillant	Meredith, NH	Maxine Laplante	Thibault, Aurore
03/12/08	Tina George	Laconia, NH	Karl Jurson	Janet Steele
03/17/08	Nancy Emerick	Laconia, NH	Howard Wood	Elizabeth Hobbs
03/25/08	Walter Engle	Meredith, NH	Roy Engle	Anna Pickar
03/27/08	Harold Wyatt	Laconia, NH	George Wyatt	Edna Rollins
03/28/08	John Bonner Sr	Laconia, NH	James Bonner	Mary Commiskey
04/05/08	Alice Davis	Meredith, NH	Joseph Leblanc	Marion Maloney
04/17/08	John Connolly	Groveton, NH	Hubert Connolly	Louise Meuse
04/18/08	June Sidney	Laconia, NH	John Philbrick	Shirley Oikle
04/19/08	Daniel Cooley	Meredith, NH	Samuel Cooley	Gertrude Nolan
04/21/08	John Parry Sr	Laconia, NH	William Parry	Ethel Grant
04/22/08	Walter Dow	Lyndon, VT	Richard Dow	Suzie Willard
05/01/08	Helen Eldridge	Meredith, NH	John Giles	Sadie Foss
05/02/08	Virginia Towle	Laconia, NH	Arthur Tripp	Agnes Orcutt
05/03/08	Randolph Kimball	Laconia, NH	Raymond Kimball	Sadre Bagley
05/06/08	Gilbert Clark	Meredith, NH	George Clark	Elizabeth Martin
05/25/08	Elizabeth Ferguson	Meredith, NH	Ernest Haskins	Emma Eldridge
06/06/08	Florence Anderson	Laconia, NH	Joseph Dutton	Ethel Shockley
06/09/08	Norman Folsom Jr	Laconia, NH	Norman Folsom Sr	Gladys O'Connell
06/15/08	Stephanie Beaudoin	Gilford, NH	Edgar Beaudoin	Virginia Orr
06/19/08	Russell Dahl	Laconia, NH	Frederick Dahl	Hilda Erickson
07/04/08	Richard Miller	Lebanon, NH	Delmar Miller	Helen Mooney
07/04/08	Donald Noseworthy	Laconia, NH	Essau Noseworthy	Alice Simmons
07/08/08	Geraldine Theriault	Meredith, NH	Thomas Landry	Irene Leger
07/25/08	Joseph Moore Sr	Laconia, NH	Robert Moore	Hazel Sprague
07/30/08	Ann Dribnack	Meredith, NH	Nicholas Dribnack	Mary Petrus

VITAL STATISTICS

Deaths continued...

Date of Death	Decedent's Name	Place of Death	Father's Name	Mother's Maiden Name
08/06/08	Edith Darling	Laconia, NH	Francis Conley	Helen Wright
08/20/08	Joyce Huntoon	Laconia, NH	Kendell Huntoon Sr	Blanche Lepeate
08/27/08	George Spring	Laconia, NH	George Spring	Elizabeth Viner
09/01/08	Joseph Karp	Meredith, NH	Marcel Karp	Franciska Piecuch
09/11/08	Ricky Sargent	Plymouth, NH	Harold Sargent Jr	Beverly Veasey
09/28/08	Roy Howe Sr	Tilton, NH	Oliver Howe	Mildred Sawyer
10/03/08	Christobell Eldridge	Lebanon, NH	Nathan Stacy	Gladys Ames
10/10/08	Frank Denutte	Meredith, NH	Aresene Denutte	Pauline Martin
10/18/08	Ralph White	Laconia, NH	Thomas White	Hilda Briggs
10/19/08	Keith Nutter	Meredith, NH	Franklin Nutter	Anna Shreve
10/23/08	Patricia Grant	Laconia, NH	Reginald Smith	Eleanor Mitchell
10/31/08	Marjorie Bent	Meredith, NH	Clifford Harvey	Gladys Drain
11/03/08	Charles Edson	Laconia, NH	Allen Edson	Bessie Barber
11/07/08	Douglas Mertz	Laconia, NH	Charles Mertz	Martha Moore
11/10/08	John Bryant Jr	Meredith, NH	John Bryant Sr	Madeline Robinson
11/11/08	June Rice	Laconia, NH	Charles Bock	Anna Schmitt
11/16/08	Roger Pedersen	Lebanon, NH	Charles Pedersen	Mabel Klenke
11/20/08	Matthew Choiniere	Boston, MA	Vint Choiniere	Julie Dion
12/02/08	Richard Dieterich	Meredith, NH	Frederick Alberg	Dorothy Stiles
12/03/08	Marian Walker	Meredith, NH	Louis Black	Ellen Havert
12/03/08	Normand Guilbeault	Lebanon, NH	Rene Guilbeault	Bertha Gagne
12/05/08	Wilfred Rayno	Meredith, NH	Wilfred Rayno	Florence Smith
12/16/08	Harold Hines	Concord, NH	Thomas Hines	Elydia Stoltz
12/16/08	Carol Blaisdell	Meredith, NH	Amedee Nedeau Sr	Beatrice Martin
12/18/08	Bonnie Stohl	Meredith, NH	Clyde Dolly	Arfleeter Henry
12/22/08	Jessie Dustin	Meredith, NH	John Macdonald	Jessie Pinkham
12/23/08	Constantine Shaulis	Meredith, NH	Joseph Shaulis	Mary Jakubauskis
12/27/08	Winnifred Nadeau	Laconia, NH	Joseph Theberge	Laura Picard
12/29/08	Emily Banfill	Meredith, NH	Michael Mahoney	Hazel Hunt

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



Town Hall Annex 12/04/2007
Photo by: Bettina Ford

Meredith Town Hall 12/04/2007
Photo by: Bettina Ford



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Fiscal Year Ended
December 31, 2008 (Unaudited)

Combined Balance Sheet - All Fund Types and Account Groups

ASSETS & OTHER DEBITS	Governmental Fund Types			Fiduciary Fund Types			Account Group
	Special		Capital	Trust and Agency		General Long-Term Debt	
	General	Revenue	Projects			Total (Memorandum Only)	
Assets							
Cash & Equivalents	\$ 6,166,353	\$ 1,099,505	(\$1,875,037)	\$ 1,629,469	\$	\$ 7,020,289	
Investments	1,138,967			177,587			1,316,554
Receivables (Net of Allowances for Uncollectibles)							
Interest	2,077,143					2,077,143	
Taxes	213,609		110,508		267,637		591,753
Accounts							15,180
Special Assessments-Current	15,180						
Special Assessments-Noncurrent	102,225						102,225
Other	178,307			(254)	2,030,146		178,307
Interfund Receivable							2,029,892
Intergovernmental Receivable							
Statutory Tax Liens Receivable	69,892						69,892
Statutory Tax Liens Reserved Until Collected	(69,892)						(69,892)
Other Debits							
Compensated Absences							
Amount to be provided for Retirement of General Long-Term Debt							
TOTAL ASSETS & OTHER DEBITS	\$ 9,891,784	\$ 1,209,759	\$ 155,109	\$ 2,074,693	\$ 10,489,171	\$ 10,489,171	\$ 24,222,611

Combined Balance Sheet - All Fund Types and Account Groups

LIABILITIES & EQUITY	Governmental Fund Types			Fiduciary Fund Types		Account Group (Memorandum Only)
	Special Revenue		Capital Projects	Trust and Agency	General Long-Term Debt	
	General	General				
Liabilities						
Accounts Payable	\$ 18,926	\$ 3,100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 22,026
Retainage Payable						
Intergovernmental Payable	5,182,343					5,182,343
Interfund Payable						
Escrow & Performance Deposits						
Deferred Revenue	21,862			267,637		60,397
Deferred Compensation Benefits Payable						21,862
General Obligation Debt Payable						267,637
Compensated Absences Payable						10,489,171
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 5,201,269	\$ 24,962	\$	\$ 328,034	\$ 10,891,266	\$ 16,445,531
EQUITY						
Fund Balances						
Reserved for Encumbrances	371,575	70,196				441,771
Reserved for Special Purposes	1,844,823	682,869	155,109	1,746,659		4,429,460
Unreserved						
Designated for Special Purposes						
Undesignated (Deficit)	2,474,117	431,732				2,905,849
TOTAL EQUITY	5,017,896	1,184,797	155,109	1,746,659	\$ 2,074,693	7,777,080
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$ 10,790,447	\$ 1,209,759	\$ 155,109	\$ 10,891,266	\$ 10,891,266	\$ 24,222,611

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Fiscal Year Ended

December 31, 2008 (Unaudited)

Special Revenue Funds - Combining Balance Sheets

	Public Library	Conservation Commission	D.A.R.E. Program	Cable Franchise Fee	Water Fund	Sewer Fund	Total
ASSETS							
Cash & Equivalents	\$ 19,151	\$ 145,226	\$ -	\$ 279,598	\$ 136,936	\$ 518,593	\$ 1,099,505
Receivables (Net of Allowances for Uncollectibles)							
Accounts			(254)				110,508
Interfund Receivable							(234)
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 19,151	\$ 145,226	\$ (254)	\$ 279,598	\$ 192,755	\$ 573,282	\$ 1,209,758
LIABILITIES & EQUITY							
<u>Liabilities</u>							
Accounts Payable	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,100	\$ -	\$ 3,100
Deferred Revenue-Access Fees					4,946	16,916	21,862
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,046	\$ 16,916	\$ 24,962
<u>Equity</u>							
Fund Balances							
Reserved for Encumbrances	\$ 19,151	\$ 126,226	(254)			\$ 22,588	\$ 28,609
Reserved for Special Purposes						282,661	381,311
Unreserved							
Unreserved/Undesignated	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 279,598	\$ (120,539)	\$ 146,446	\$ 431,731
TOTAL EQUITY	\$ 19,151	\$ 145,226	\$ (254)	\$ 279,598	\$ 184,709	\$ 556,366	\$ 1,184,796
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$ 19,151	\$ 145,226	\$ (254)	\$ 279,598	\$ 192,755	\$ 573,282	\$ 1,209,758

Capital Project Funds - Combining Balance Sheets

	Prescott Park	Landfill Closure	Community Center	Bundled. Project	Fire Dept. Building	Boynton Road Project	Total
ASSETS							
Cash & Equivalents	\$ 19,522	\$ 112,794	\$ 22,792	\$ (346,904)	\$ (1,680,623)	\$ (2,620)	\$ (1,875,037)
Interfund Receivable				346,904	1,680,623	2,620	2,030,146
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 19,522	\$ 112,794	\$ 22,792	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 155,109
LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES							
Liabilities							
Accounts Payable	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Due to General Fund							
Retainage Payable							
TOTAL LIABILITIES							
Fund Balances							
Reserve for Encumbrances	\$ 19,522	\$ 112,794	\$ 22,792	\$	\$	\$	\$
Reserve for Special Purposes							
Unreserved							
Undesignated (Deficit)							
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	\$ 19,522	\$ 112,794	\$ 2,792	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 155,109
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES	\$ 19,522	\$ 112,794	\$ 22,792	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 155,109

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Fiscal Year Ended
December 31, 2008 (Unaudited)

Trust and Agency Funds - Combining Balance Sheets

	Trust Funds			Agency Funds			Totals	
	Expendable		Permanant					
	Library	Capital Reserve	Others	Town	\$ 60,397	\$ 1,629,469		
ASSETS								
Cash & Equivalents	\$ 8,718	\$ 296,597	\$ 1,228,804	\$ 34,953	\$ 60,397	\$ 1,629,469		
Investments	104,116			73,471		177,587		
Receivables								
Interest Accounts					267,637		267,637	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 112,834	\$ 290,597	\$ 1,228,804	\$ 108,424	\$ 328,034	\$ 2,074,693		
LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES								
Liabilities								
Interfund Payable					60,397	60,397		
Escrow and Performance Deposits					267,637	267,637		
Deferred Compensation Benefits Payable								
TOTAL LIABILITIES					328,034	328,034		
Fund Balances								
Reserved For Endowments	112,834	296,597	1,228,804	108,424		-	1,746,659	
Reserved For Special Purposes								
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	112,834	296,597	1,228,804	108,424		-	1,746,659	
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES	\$ 112,834	\$ 296,597	\$ 1,228,804	\$ 108,424	\$ 328,034	\$ 2,074,693		

Agency Funds - Combining Statement of Changes in Assets and Liabilities

		Balance 1/1/2008	Additions	Deductions	Balance 12/31/2008
Engineering Performance Bond Fund					
<u>Assets:</u>	Cash & Equivalents	\$ 198,562	\$ 29,025	\$ 167,190	\$ 60,397
<u>Liabilities:</u>					
	Escrow and Performance Deposits	\$ 198,562	\$ 29,025	\$ 167,190	\$ 60,397
ICMA Deferred Compensation Plan					
<u>Assets:</u>	Due From Others	\$ 473,565	\$ 12,350	\$ 218,278	\$ 267,637
<u>Liabilities:</u>					
	Deferred Compensation Benefits Payable	\$ 473,565	\$ 12,350	\$ 218,278	\$ 267,637
TOTAL - ALL AGENCY FUNDS					
Cash & Equivalents		\$ 98,562	\$ 29,025	\$ 167,190	\$ 60,397
Due From Others		473,565	12,350	218,278	267,637
Total Assets		\$ 672,127	\$ 41,375	\$ 385,468	\$ 328,034
Escrow and Performance Deposits		\$ 198,562	\$ 9,025	\$ 167,190	\$ 60,397
Deferred Compensation Benefits Payable		473,565	12,350	218,278	267,637
Total Liabilities		\$ 672,127	\$ 41,375	\$ 385,468	\$ 328,034

Report of the Trustees of Trust Funds

PERMANENT TRUST FUNDS	PURPOSE	Beginning Balance 1/1/2008	Total Deposits	Total (Withdrawals)	Period Interest	Ending Balance 12/31/2008
WWII Memorial	Upkeep	\$ 2,536	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 53	\$ 2,588
Outlying Cemeteries	Cemetery Care	71,980	-	-	1,491	73,471
Ebon S. Roberts	Library	488	-	-	10	498
Edwin E. Beede	Library	102,041	-	-	2,076	104,116
Samuel W. Rollins	Library	7,603	-	-	158	7,761
J. Bennett/E. Swain	Library	1,123	-	-	23	1,147
William E. Bixby	Library	244	-	-	5	249
Hattie R. Erskine	Library Clock	283	-	-	6	289
George S. Fogg	School District	3,047	-	-	63	3,110
Town Cemetery	General	7,160	-	-	148	7,308
Caroline M. Swift	Cemetery Wreath	732	-	-	15	747
J. Beede Cemetery	Perpetual Care	11,027	-	-	228	11,256
Total Permanent Funds		\$ 208,264	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,276	\$ 212,540

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

*Fiscal Year Ended
December 31, 2008 (Unaudited)*

Report of the Trustees of Trust Funds continued

EXPENDABLE TRUSTS	PURPOSE	Beginning Balance 1/1/2008	Total Deposits	Total (Withdrawals)	Period Interest	Ending Balance 12/31/2008
Cemetery Maintenance	Maintenance	\$ 19,572	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 405	\$ 19,978
Library	Maintenance	8,541			177	8,718
Employee Benefits	Severance	170,515	25,000	65,000	3,970	134,485
Landfill Closure	Landfill Closure	48,877			1,236	50,113
Municipal Building	Additional Space	170			4	174
Solid Waste	Replace Trailer		25,000		168	25,168
Fire Department	Communications	1,074			22	1,096
Fire Department	Replace Vehicle	682,545	75,000	727,563	16,478	46,460
Municipal Technology	Software Upgrade	59,336			1,229	60,565
Open Space/Conservation	Conservation	158,128	50,000	210,000	3,611	1,739
Waterfront Infrastructure Imprv.	Waterfront Imprv.	40,160	35,000		1,067	76,227
Downtown Parking	Additional Space	464,970			9,632	474,602
Disinfection Water Change	Water Treatment	78,409			1,624	80,034
Fire Department Building Trust	Land/Building	96,937		99,730	2,794	(0)
Main Street Rehabilitation	Infrastructure Improve		25,000			25,000
Water Systems Improvement Trust	Infrastructure Improve	77,746	50,000		1,946	129,693
Total Town Expendable Trusts:		\$ 1,906,980	285,000	1,102,293	44,363	1,134,049
School - SPED	Special Education	101,373			2,100	103,473
Total All Expendable Trusts:		\$ 2,008,353	\$ 285,000	\$ 1,102,293	\$ 46,463	\$ 1,237,522
CAPITAL RESERVES		Beginning Balance 1/1/2008	Total Deposits	Total (Withdrawals)	Period Interest	Ending Balance 12/31/2007
Fire Truck		\$ 5,071	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 105	\$ 5,176
Police		12,873			267	13,140
Water Department		35,815			742	36,556
Prescott Park Expansion		4,925			102	5,027
Total Town Capital Reserves		58,684			1,216	59,900
School Facilities Maintenance Fund		226,308			4,688	230,996
Inter-Lakes School District		5,585			116	5,700
Total Town Capital Reserves		\$ 290,577	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,019	\$ 296,597

Long-Term Indebtedness

Long-term debt payable at December 31, 2008 is comprised of the following individual issues:

Description of Issue General Obligation Debt Payable	Original Amount	Issue Date	Maturity Date	Interest Rate %	Outstanding at 12/31/08
1988 Cotton Hill Sewer Bond	\$ 603,200	1988	2009	3.304%	\$ 5,000
1989 Library Expansion Bond	750,000	1989	2009	3.304%	75,000
1988 Water System Improvement Bond	2,000,000	1988	2015	3.304%	875,000
1994 Cataldo Road Sewer Bond	229,000	1994	2013	3.304%	70,000
1998 Westbury Road Sewer Bond	55,000	1998	2010	3.304%	15,000
1998 Wagon Wheel Sewer Bond	211,874	1998	2010	3.304%	40,000
1999 Pleasant Street Bond	1,400,000	1999	2011	3.304%	370,000
2001 Neal Shore Sewer Bond	200,000	2001	2010	3.870%	31,650
2002 Plymouth St/Rte 3 North Bond	948,770	2002	2011	3.304%	170,000
2002 Plymouth St/Rte 3 North Bond	637,467	2002	2022	3.728%	446,227
2004 Conservation Bond	500,000	2004	2014	3.990%	300,000
2004 East Bluff Village Sewer Bond	115,381	2004	2014	3.870%	69,229
2005 Community Center Bond	3,500,000	2005	2025	4.000%	2,975,000
2007 Police Station Bond	1,500,000	2007	2017	4.990%	1,171,463
2007 Bundled Water/Sewer/Roads	1,220,000	2007	2037	4.125%	1,182,720
2008 Fire Station Bond	2,292,882	2009	2023	4.000%	2,292,882
2008 Page Pond Conservation	400,000	2009	2018	4.000%	400,000
Total General Obligation Debt Payable - December 31, 2008					\$ 10,489,171

Annual Requirements To Amortize General Obligation Debt:

Fiscal Year Ending
December 31, 2008

2009
2010
2011
2012
2013-2038

Totals

Governmental Fund Debt		
Principal	Interest	Total
\$ 1,083,007	\$ 408,493	\$ 1,491,500
1,012,133	378,846	1,390,979
900,490	341,065	1,241,555
755,872	306,801	1,062,673
6,737,669	1,966,001	8,703,670
<u>\$ 10,489,171</u>	<u>\$ 3,401,206</u>	<u>\$ 13,890,377</u>

Compensated Absences Payable

Vacation and Sick Leave Including Benefits

\$ 402,095

Comparative Statement of Revenues - General Fund

	Estimated	Actual	Over (Under) Budget
Taxes			
Property	\$ 22,032,635	\$ 22,032,635	\$.
Yield	3,500	3,707	207
Boat	32,000	32,899	899
Current Land Use Change Tax	146,050	153,019	6,969
Interest & Penalties on Taxes	<u>146,050</u>	<u>153,019</u>	<u>6,969</u>
Total Taxes	<u>22,214,185</u>	<u>22,222,260</u>	<u>8,075</u>
Licenses and Permits			
Motor Vehicle Permits	1,225,000	1,226,537	1,537
Building Permits	110,000	98,588	(11,412)
Other Licenses, Permits, Fees	60,200	62,069	1,869
Total Licenses and Permits	<u>1,395,200</u>	<u>1,387,194</u>	<u>(8,006)</u>
Intergovernmental Revenues			
State/Federal			
Highway Block Grant	183,104	183,104	-
Railroad Tax	1,829	1,829	1,829
Shared Revenue	31,493	31,493	-
Rooms & Meals Tax	288,342	288,342	-
Water Pollution Grants	19,366	19,366	-
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	35	35	-
State & Forest Land Reimbursement	300	300	-
Other State/Federal Revenue	210,760	219,007	8,247
Total Intergovernmental Revenues	<u>733,400</u>	<u>743,476</u>	<u>10,076</u>
Charges for Services			
Income from Departments	<u>687,390</u>	<u>720,464</u>	<u>33,074</u>
Miscellaneous Revenues			
Sale of Town Property	115,000	144,277	29,277
Interest on Investments	44,775	46,746	1,971
Insurance & Betterment Assessments	<u>159,775</u>	<u>191,023</u>	<u>31,248</u>
Other Financing Sources			
Interfund Transfers			
Special Revenue Fund	337,178	337,178	-
Trust Funds	225,501	225,501	-
Total Other Financing Sources	<u>562,679</u>	<u>562,679</u>	<u>-</u>
Voted from Unreserved Fund Balance			
Unreserved Fund Balance Used To			
Reduce Tax Rate	<u>325,000</u>	<u>325,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Revenues, Other Financing Sources and Use of Fund Balance			
	<u>\$ 26,077,629</u>	<u>\$ 26,152,096</u>	<u>\$ 74,467</u>

Comparative Statement of Appropriations and Expenditures - General Fund

	2007 Encumbered	2008 Appropriation	2008 Expended	2008 Encumbered	Balance (Overdrafts)
General Government					
Executive Office	\$ 11,553	\$ 230,440	\$ 303,287	\$ -	\$ (61,293)
Executive - Municipal Administration	69,436	582,216	580,612	33,450	37,590
Personnel Administration	17,316	51,386	60,604	7,500	598
Town Clerk	7,180	143,602	143,965	2,500	4,317
Administrative Services	25,581	431,752	414,920	40,371	2,042
Assessor	7,000	223,920	225,545	7,000	(1,625)
Tax Collector	5,000	85,700	88,345		2,354
Community Development	9,380	409,125	418,351		154
Regional Associations		219,062	217,062		2,000
Public Safety					
Police		1,623,387	1,586,411	2,951	34,025
Ambulance		256,151,	256,151		
Fire	18,130	259,421	267,893	5,245	4,413
Public Works					
Solid Waste Disposal	78,000	849,238	818,149	80,633	28,457
Building & Grounds	32,924	294,599	301,616	10,000	15,907
Cemetery	1,000	130,607	119,958		11,649
Highway Department	140,780	2,377,727	2,442,875	70,984	4,649
Water Distribution					
Hydrant Rental		69,000	69,000		
Welfare					
General Assistance		100,250	79,542		20,708
Culture and Recreation					
Parks and Recreation	24,883	768,068	753,307	1,429	38,214
Library	67,018	497,855	515,170	51,700	(1,997)
Debt Service					
Principal - Long-Term Debt		920,691	915,258		5,433
Interest - Long-Term Debt		330,071	318,004		12,067
Interest - Tax Anticipation Notes		10,000			10,000
Intergovernmental					
School Appropriation		12,710,268	12,710,268		
County Appropriation		2,524,270	2,524,270		
Other Financing Uses - Interfund Transfers					
Conservation Commission	16,000	21,115	33,615	19,000	(15,500)
Capital Projects	52,465	365,000	365,000	19,712	32,753
Expendable Trust Funds		285,000	285,000		
Total Appropriations, Expenditures, and Encumbrances	\$ 583,645	\$ 26,769,920	\$ 26,814,178	\$ 352,474	\$ 186,914

Statement of Changes in Unreserved - Undesignated Fund Balance - General Fund

Fiscal Year 2008Unreserved - Undesignated

Fund Balance - January 1	\$	2,545,631
--------------------------	----	-----------

Deductions

Amount used to reduce 2008 Taxes	(325,000)
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Additions:

Revenue Surplus	\$ 74,467
Unexpended Appropriations	186,914
Change in Reserves	<u>\$ (7,895) 253,486</u>

Unreserved - Undesignated

Fund Balance - December 31 (Unaudited)	\$ 2,474,117
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Fiscal Year 2009 - WorksheetUnreserved - Undesignated

Fund Balance - January 1, 2009 (Unaudited)	\$ 2,474,117
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Deductions—(Proposed)

Amount to be used to reduce 2009 taxes	<u>(325,000)</u>
--	------------------

Unreserved - Undesignated

Fund Balance - January 1, 2009 (Unaudited)	<u>\$ 2,149,117</u>
--	---------------------

Treasurer's Account Summary

General Fund - Operating

Balance 01/01/2008	5,663,828.34
Receipts & Transfers	26,111,392.43
Expenditures	(25,875,138.30)
Balance 12/31/2008	<u>5,900,082.47</u>

General Fund - Investments

Balance 01/01/2008	2,345,631.08
Interest	75,661.21
Transfers	(1,282,324.86)
Balance 12/31/2008	<u>1,138,967.43</u>

Community Center

Balance 01/01/2008	(65,859.87)
Receipts & Transfers	90,400.27
Expenditures	(1,748.30)
Balance 12/31/2008	<u>22,792.10</u>

Water Department

Balance 01/01/2008	197,436.92
Receipts & Transfers	618,295.67
Expenditures	(678,796.44)
Balance 12/31/2008	<u>136,936.15</u>

Sewer Department

Balance 01/01/2008	589,926.35
Receipts & Transfers	696,994.39
Expenditures	(768,327.57)
Balance 12/31/2008	<u>518,593.17</u>

Conservation Commission

Balance 01/01/2008	158,890.92
Receipts & Transfers	44,950.00
Expenditures	(58,614.89)
Balance 12/31/2008	<u>145,226.03</u>

Cable Franchise

Balance 01/01/2008	216,956.94
Receipts & Transfers	63,347.24
Expenditures	(705.83)
Balance 12/31/2008	<u>279,598.35</u>

Laconia Land Trust

Balance 01/01/2008	35,000.00
Receipts & Transfers	(37,619.50)
Expenditures	
Balance 12/31/2008	<u>(2,619.50)</u>

Treasurer's Account Summary continued

Landfill

Balance 01/01/2008	101,780.57
Receipts & Transfers	34,596.70
Expenditures	(23,582.90)
Balance 12/31/2008	<u>112,794.37</u>

Prescott Park

Balance 01/01/2008	30,096.88
Receipts & Transfers	
Expenditures	(10,574.60)
Balance 12/31/2008	<u>19,522.28</u>

Bundle Project

Balance 01/01/2008	(108,183.24)
Receipts & Transfers	818,757.88
Expenditures	(1,057,478.48)
Balance 12/31/2008	<u>(346,903.84)</u>

Fire Station

Balance 01/01/2008	(32,224.85)
Receipts & Transfers	121,580.10
Expenditures	(1,769,977.98)
Balance 12/31/2008	<u>(1,680,622.73)</u>

Land Use

Balance 01/01/2008	20,780.00
Receipts & Transfers	
Expenditures	
Balance 12/31/2008	<u>20,780.00</u>

Police Station

Balance 01/01/2008	778,050.81
Receipts & Transfers	
Expenditures	(22,907.70)
Balance 12/31/2008	<u>755,143.11</u>

Balance All Funds 12/31/2008

\$7,020,289.39

Treasurer's Account Summary continued

Proof of Balance

Meredith Village Savings Bank

Accounts Payable	Outstanding Checks	<u>(1,442,048.94)</u>
	Reconciled Balance	<u>(1,442,048.94)</u>
Payroll	Outstanding Checks	<u>(15,709.75)</u>
	Reconciled Balance	<u>(15,709.75)</u>
Operating Account		<u>6,199,425.63</u>
	Reconciled Balance	<u>6,199,425.63</u>
Citizen Lockbox		<u>1,054,647.96</u>
	Reconciled Balance	<u>1,054,647.96</u>
Debit Card Checking		<u>15,000.00</u>
	Reconciled Balance	<u>15,000.00</u>
Certificate of Deposit		<u>1,145,028.53</u>
	Reconciled Balance	<u>1,145,028.53</u>
Engineering Account		<u>63,027.64</u>
	Reconciled Balance	<u>63,027.64</u>
Baby Bicentennial Account #1		<u>44.16</u>
Baby Bicentennial Account #2		<u>44.16</u>
	Reconciled Balance	<u>88.32</u>
Cash on Hand		<u>830.00</u>
	Reconciled Balance	<u>830.00</u>
Reconciled Balance 12/31/2008		<u>\$ 7,020,289.39</u>

Respectfully submitted,

Louann Breen

Louann Breen, Town Treasurer

TAX INFORMATION

Tax Collector's Summary of Warrants

<u>Debits</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Uncollected Taxes 1-1-08		
Property Taxes	\$	1,222,537.67
Land Use Change		7,025.50
Betterment Assessments		13,582.62
Water Rents		62,020.42
Sewer Rents		53,166.41
Taxes Committed to Collector		
Property Taxes	22,032,635.12	500.00
Yield Taxes	724.31	3,706.53
Excavation Tax		534.56
Betterment Assessments	35,883.43	197.55
Land Use Change Taxes	92,200.00	77,000.00
Water Rents	435,487.26	
Sewer Rents	573,853.30	
Overpayments		
Property Taxes	31,578.96	
Sewer Rents		162.00
Interest	14,671.16	70,445.36
Total Debits	<u>\$ 23,217,033.54</u>	<u>\$ 1,510,878.62</u>
Credits		
Remitted to Treasurer		
Property Taxes	\$ 19,996,180.86	\$ 1,220,929.85
Yield Taxes	724.31	3,706.53
Excavation Tax		534.56
Betterment Assessments	20,703.01	13,780.17
Land Use Change Taxes	87,200.00	84,025.50
Water Rents	379,659.76	55,265.26
Sewer Rents	517,538.19	51,195.21
Interest	14,671.16	70,445.36
Abatements		
Property Taxes		2,107.82
Water Rents	8.26	6,755.16
Sewer Rents	1,626.60	2,133.20
Uncollected Taxes 12-31-08		
Property Taxes	2,077,143.18	
Betterment Assessments	15,180.42	
Land Use Change Taxes	5,000.00	
Water Rents	55,819.24	
Sewer Rents	54,688.51	
Property Tax Credit Balance	(9,109.96)	
Total Credits	<u>\$ 23,217,033.54</u>	<u>\$ 1,510,878.62</u>

Tax Collector's Summary of Tax Liens

<u>Debits</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>Prior</u>
Uncollected Liens 1-1-08	\$ 467,841.95	\$ 179,062.07	\$ 78,535.89	\$ 2,974.01
Liens Executed During 2008	16,935.74	16,577.75	28,944.94	168.57
Total Debits	\$ 484,777.69	\$ 195,639.82	\$ 107,480.83	\$ 3,142.58

Credits**Remitted to Treasurer**

Redemptions	\$ 254,233.00	\$ 81,831.32	\$ 76,859.32	\$ 461.65
Interest & Costs	16,935.74	16,577.75	28,944.94	168.57
Abatements		805.50		
Deeded to Town				
Uncollected Liens 12-31-08	213,608.95	96,425.25	1,676.57	2,512.36
Total Credits	\$ 484,777.69	\$ 195,639.82	\$ 107,480.83	\$ 3,142.58

Tax Collector's Report

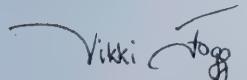
It has been my great pleasure to serve the Town of Meredith. I would like to thank all of our taxpayers for your continued support.

Many of our taxpayers have had to suffer through the challenges of a faltering economy. If you are unable to make full payment at the time taxes are due, please make partial payments. You may also want to consider making weekly or monthly payments. Please contact the tax office if you are having difficulties. If you do not have a tax escrow account, you may wish to contact your mortgage holder to ask them about setting up an escrow account for payment of your property taxes. The Meredith Board of Selectmen has authorized the acceptance of prepayments on your property tax account. Taxpayers shall be allowed to prepay taxes no more than 2 years in advance of the due date of the taxes. No interest shall accrue to the taxpayer.

I'd like to thank you for continuing to make the collection of water/sewer and property payments through our lockbox payment service so successful. To ensure timely payment to your account, checks paid through on-line banking must be mailed to our office address at the Town of Meredith, 41 Main Street, Meredith, NH 03253. **Do not mail your on-line bill payments to the Manchester PO Box.** The Lockbox Service is unable to process payments unless the bottom portion of the bill accompanies the check and they must return your checks to me, delaying receipt of your payment.

Please use the envelopes enclosed with the tax and water/sewer bills for *on time* payments only. DON'T use the envelopes for other Town business as Lighthouse Financial at the Manchester P.O. Box has to forward those to us.

Please feel free to contact me if I can be of assistance to you or if you have any suggestions to improve efficiency and service.



Vikki Fogg
Deputy Tax Collector

TAX INFORMATION

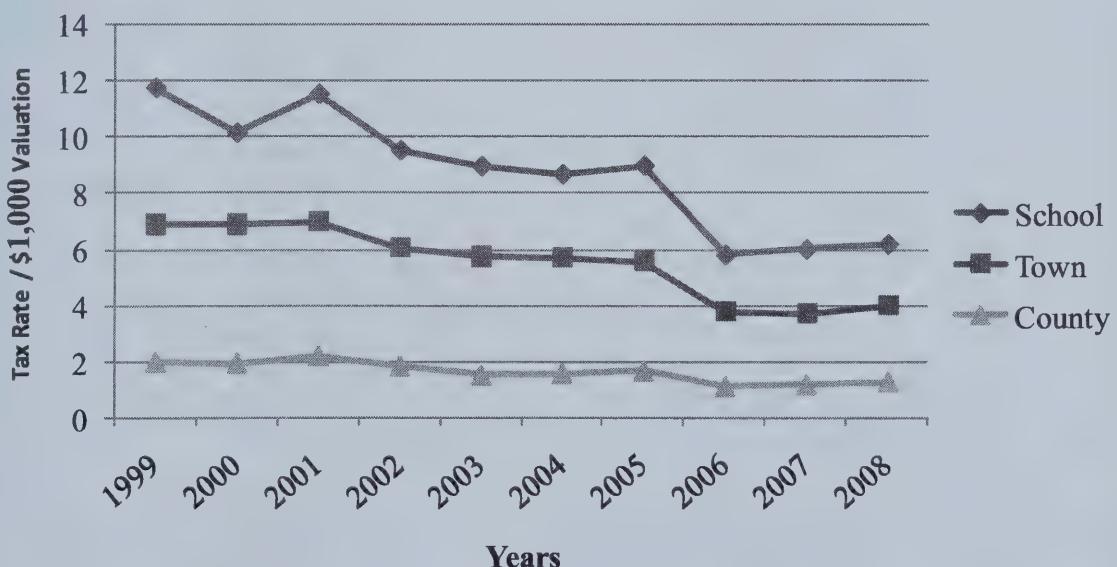
2008 Tax Rate Calculation

		2008 Tax Rates per \$1,000 Valuation
Appropriations	\$ 15,623,119	
Less: Revenues	(8,178,510)	
Less: Shared Revenues	(36,312)	
Add: Overlay	72,411	
War Service Credits	<u>235,750</u>	
Approved Town Tax Effort		7,716,458
Municipal Tax Rate		<u>\$ 3.97</u>
Due to Regional School	12,291,212	
Less: Cost of Adequate Education	(293,593)	
Less: State Education Taxes	<u>(4,199,391)</u>	
Approved School Tax Effort		7,798,228 \$ 4.02
State Education Taxes		
Equalized Valuation (No Utilities) X	2.14	
1,962,332,356		4,199,391 \$ 2.17
Divide by Local Assessed Valuation (No Utilities)		
1,934,872,763		
Excess State Education Taxes to be Remitted to State		
School Tax Rate		<u>\$ 6.19</u>
Due to County	2,524,270	
Less: Shared Revenue	<u>(8,881)</u>	
Approved County Tax Effort		2,515,389
County Tax Rate		<u>\$ 1.30</u>
Combined Tax Rate		<u>\$ 11.46</u>
Total Property Taxes Assessed	22,229,466	
Less: War Service Credits	<u>(235,750)</u>	
Total Property Tax Commitment	<u>\$ 21,993,716</u>	
		Tax Rate
Net Assessed Valuation	\$ 1,940,881,763	9.29
State Education Taxes	\$ 1,934,872,763	2.17
Proof of Rate		<u>\$ 22,229,466</u>

Ten Year Tax Rate Comparison

Year	School	Town	County	Combined	
				Tax Rate	Net Valuation
1999	11.77	6.89	1.98	20.64	600,781,506
2000	10.17	6.89	1.93	18.99	692,241,498
2001	11.56	6.99	2.18	20.73	706,275,825
2002	9.56	6.09	1.82	17.47	911,814,837
2003	8.97	5.74	1.52	16.23	1,092,075,621
2004	8.68	5.70	1.57	15.95	1,132,161,235
2005	9.00	5.59	1.66	16.25	1,162,607,162
2006	5.82	3.79	1.13	10.74	1,897,635,500
2007	6.01	3.70	1.20	10.91	1,918,269,293
2008	6.19	3.97	1.30	11.46	1,940,881,763

Ten Year Tax Rate Comparison



SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Summary of Town-Owned Property

Conservation/Recreation

Map/Lot	Acres	Location	Use
R08-014	1.21	Meredith Center Road	Childs Park
R08-015	0.63	Meredith Center Road	Childs Park
R13-005	3.25	Lake Wickwas	Peninsula
R13-006	3.20	Lake Wickwas	Island
R13-007	5.50	Lake Wickwas	Island
R14-001	305.58	Chemung Road	Hamlin Town Forest
R14-028	2.02	Chemung Road	Pickering Park
R14-029	1.00	Chemung Road	Boat Launch, Pickering Park
R17-035	2.50	Chemung Road	Abuts Hamlin Town Forest
R17-036	5.06	Chemung Road	Abuts Hamlin Town Forest
R18-009A	188.00	Tucker Mountain Road	Conservation
R21-008	12.00	Lake Pemigewasset	Waterfront - Wetlands
R22-007	20.00	Tucker Mountain Road	Town Forest
R22-013	31.04	Nedeau Road	Town Forest
R23-004	93.00	Carleton Road	Leighton Wildlife Sanctuary
R31-020	37.80	Carleton Road	Town Forest
R32-001	49.40	Hermit Woods Road	Town Forest
R32-011	79.00	Carleton Road	Leighton Wildlife Sanctuary
S02-005	3.03	Beattie Road	Former tree nursery
S22-020	13.01	Parade Road	Waukewan Highlands Park
S22-022	176.10	Parade Road	Waukewan Highlands Park
U05-002	0.30	Waukewan Street	Boat Launch, Picnic Area
U06-031	7.10	High Street/Waukewan Ave	Swasey Park
U06-060	0.32	Main Street	Community Park
U07-121	0.37	Route 25	Scenic Park
U07-123	0.13	Route 25	Scenic Park, Indian Island
U07-126	0.83	Route 3	Hesky Park
U07-127	0.92	Route 3	Hesky Park
U10-031	11.87	Route 3 North	Prescott Park
U10-033	0.32	Route 3 North	Prescott Park
U10-035	1.16	Route 3 North	Wetlands, Hawkins Brook
U11-047	.63	Greemore Road	Recreation
U11-050A	1.95	Greemore Road	Wetlands, Hawkins Brook
U11-050B	1.00	Circle Drive	Community Center Park
U14-001	21.74	Route 3 North	Prescott Park (New Fields)
U15-019A	0.12	Route 25/Pleasant Street	Clough Park
U39-058	28.01	Leavitt Park Road	Town Beach, Bathhouse, Bartlett Brook

Facilities

I02-021	0.07	Bear Island	Post Office, Dock
R08-047	0.29	Meredith Center Road	Fire Station
R08-048	0.92	Meredith Center Road	Fire Station
S15-008	28.80	Jenness Hill Road	DPW, Landfill, Police Station
S17-7A		Sunset Hill Road	Water Tower

Summary of Town-Owned Property continued

Facilities continued

Map/Lot	Acres	Location	Use
S17-18R-1	0.00	Upper Mile Point Drive	Booster Station
S23-021	0.36	Reservoir Road	Pumping Station (Water Department)
U02-40	0.26	Lower Ladd Hill Road	Pumping Station (Water Department)
U03-028A	0.21	Waukewan Street	Bathhouse, Sewer Pump Station
U03-030	0.44	Waukewan Street	Town Beach
U05-01A	0.07	Waukewan Street	Water Treatment Plant
U05-01B	0.51	Waukewan Street	Water Treatment Plant
U06-037	0.17	High Street	Parking Lot
U06-038	0.26	High Street	Parking Lot
U06-059	0.57	Main Street	Library
U06-063	0.16	Water Street	Parking Lot
U06-112	0.53	Route 3/Oak Street	Fire Station
U06-117C	0.27	Lang Street	Cemetery (historic)
U06-145	0.04	Route 3	Town Docks
U07-043	0.14	5 Highland Street	Town Hall Annex
U07-044	0.15	Main Street	Town Hall
U07-086A	0.02	Route 3/Plymouth Street	Utility Right-of-Way
U07-088	0.36	Route 3/Plymouth Street	Parking Lot
U07-107	0.17	Route 3 North	Sewer Pump Station
U07-108	0.92	Route 3 North	Parking Lot (adjacent to Aubuchon Hardware)
U10-017	0.29	Philbrook Avenue	Sewer Pump Station
U10-034	16.00	Route 3 North	Public Works Office, Prime Wetlands
U11-050	3.68	1 Circle Drive	Community Center
U11-067	0.38	Kelly Lane	Fire Pond
U11-071	19.00	Route 3 North	Meredith Village Cemetery
U12-004	0.23	Philbrook Avenue	Road Turnaround
U15-027	0.07	Morrison Avenue	Road Turnaround
U33-015A	1.55	Cattle Landing Road	Parking Lot, Right-of-Way
U33-025	0.41	Cattle Landing Road	Docks, Right-of-Way
U35-010	1.02	Lovejoy Sands Road	Boat Ramp, Docks, Parking Lot
Vacant/Undesignated			
I07-006	0.43	Bear Island	
R08-033	1.90	Meredith Center Road	Wetland
R17-016	0.69	Chemung Road/Camp Waldron Road	
R35-003	13.00	Pinnacle Ridge Road	Landlocked
S15-057	1.57	Boynton Road	
S18-055	0.27	Tracy Way	Adjacent to Right-of-Way
S22-027	0.53	Tracy Way/Parade Road	Intersection Sight Distance
U01-01A	0.27	Route 3/Neal Shore Road	
U01-034	0.08	Neal Shore Road	Adjacent to Railroad Right-of-Way
U04-025	0.92	Waukewan Street	Monkey Pond
U10-027A	0.28	Route 3 North	Water Line Loop
U12-015	207.00	Philbrook Avenue/Jenness Hill Road	
U19-31A	0.12	Pinnacle Park Road	Pinnacle Park Beach

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Summary Inventory of Valuation - All Properties

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2008

Value of Land Only

Current Use	\$ 1,572,243
Residential	959,189,549
Commercial/Industrial	<u>63,148,851</u>
Total Value of Land	1,023,910,643

Value of Buildings Only

Residential	815,268,466
Manufactured Housing	11,790,600
Commercial/Industrial	<u>86,799,554</u>
Total Value of Buildings	913,858,620

Public Utilities

Electric	<u>6,009,000</u>
Total Valuation Before Exemptions	1,943,778,263

Exemptions

Blind	150,000
Elderly	1,827,900
Totally & Permanently Disabled	851,800
Solar/Wind Power	<u>66,800</u>
Total Exemptions	<u>2,896,500</u>

Net Taxable Valuation \$ 1,940,881,763

TOWN WARRANT INFORMATION

2009 Meredith Town Warrant

State of New Hampshire

TO THE INHABITANTS OF MEREDITH QUALIFIED TO VOTE IN TOWN AFFAIRS:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Meredith Community Center, 1 Circle Drive, in said Town on the second Tuesday of March next March 10, 2009, from 7:00 AM until 7:00 PM for the casting of ballots; and at 7:00 PM Wednesday, March 11, 2009, at the Inter-Lakes Junior/Senior High School Gymnasium, 1 Laker Lane, in said Town to act on Articles 4 through 21.

BALLOT ARTICLES TO BE ACTED UPON:

ARTICLE 1

To bring your ballots for:

Selectman - Two (2) for three (3) years
Trustee of Trust Funds - One (1) for three (3) years
Library Trustees - Four (4) for three (3) years

ARTICLE 2

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the planning board for the Meredith Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amend Article V, Establishment of Districts and District Regulations, to (1) establish standards for determining the location of a zoning district boundary from the zoning map and (2) allow the owner of a lot split by a zoning district boundary to use each portion of the lot per each district's zoning or the option of utilizing the whole property for single and two-family uses under the zoning applicable to the larger portion by special exception?

ARTICLE 3

Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB 2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Town of Meredith on the second Tuesday of March?"

**(Petitioned by 25 or more registered voters or
2% of the registered voters in town, whichever is less)**

(Passage requires an affirmative 3/5 majority ballot vote)

TOWN WARRANT INFORMATION

DELIBERATIVE SESSION

ARTICLE 4

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to donate or sell a .27 acre piece of property located on the corner of Westbury Road and Neal Shore Road and identified in the Town's tax maps as Map U1-Lot 1A, on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen may negotiate.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

ARTICLE 5

Shall the Town vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 36-A:4-a, I(b) to authorize the conservation commission to expend funds for contributions to 'qualified organizations' for the purchase of property interests, or facilitating transactions related thereto, where the property interest is to be held by the qualified organization and the Town will retain no interest in the property?

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

ARTICLE 6

Shall the Town vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 36-A:4-a, I(a) to authorize the conservation commission to expend funds to purchase interests in land outside the boundaries of our municipality, subject to the approval of the local governing body?

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-1)

ARTICLE 7

To see if the Town will vote to modify the previously adopted provision of RSA 72:62, the solar energy exemption from property tax, to adjust the exemption so that it is equal to the cost, including installation, of the solar energy system up to \$20,000 in value.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

ARTICLE 8

To see if the Town will vote to modify the previously adopted provision of RSA 72:66, the wind energy exemption from property tax, to adjust the exemption so that it is equal to the cost, including installation, of the wind energy system up to \$20,000 in value.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

TOWN WARRANT INFORMATION

ARTICLE 9

To see if the voters of the Town of Meredith will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 (Five Hundred Dollars) to benefit the Center Harbor Soup Kitchen, a Lakes Region community organization, housed at the Center Harbor Congregational Church.

(Petitioned by 25 or more registered voters or
2% of the registered voters in town, whichever is less)

(Not Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-1)

ARTICLE 10

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Downtown Parking Expendable Trust created in 1999. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal are to be transferred to the Town's General Fund. Article #10 is contingent upon the affirmative passage of Article #11 and Article #12.

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

ARTICLE 11

To see if the Town will vote to create an Expendable Trust Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, to be known as the Meredith Parking Expendable Trust, for the purpose of providing additional parking within Meredith and to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) to come from the Unreserved Fund Balance for this fund and to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend. This sum represents a portion of the amount from the discontinued Downtown Parking Expendable Trust in Article #10.

Consideration of this Article is contingent upon the affirmative passage of Article #10.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

ARTICLE 12

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred and Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$115,000.00), for the purpose of completing the rehabilitation of the Prescott Park Parking Lot. Said sum, is to come from the Unreserved Fund Balance, which represents a portion of the amount from the discontinued Downtown Parking Expendable Trust in Article #10. Consideration of this Article is contingent upon the affirmative passage of Article #10.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

TOWN WARRANT INFORMATION

ARTICLE 13

To see if the Town will vote to create an Expendable Trust Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, to be known as the Groundwater Source Study Expendable Trust, for the purpose of studying the possible alternatives for water sources within the Town of Meredith, and to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Six Thousand Dollars (\$26,000.00) for this fund and to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

ARTICLE 14

To see if the Town will vote to create an Expendable Trust Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, to be known as the Parks & Recreation Facilities Improvements Expendable Trust Fund, for the purpose of improvements to the Parks & Recreation Facilities within the Town of Meredith, and to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) for this fund and to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

ARTICLE 15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) to be added to the Water Improvements Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Board of Selectmen are agents to expend.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

ARTICLE 16

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000.00) to be added to the Waterfront Infrastructure Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Board of Selectmen are agents to expend.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

TOWN WARRANT INFORMATION

ARTICLE 17

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) to be added to the Main Street Rehab Expendable Trust Fund previously established.

The Board of Selectmen are agents to expend.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

ARTICLE 18

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) to be added to the Employee Benefits Expendable Trust Fund previously established.

The Board of Selectmen are agents to expend.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

ARTICLE 19

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000.00) to improve various town roads that are eligible for 2 to 1 matching funds from the State Aid Reconstruction Program, contingent upon the receipt of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) of that amount from the State, with the balance of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to be raised by taxation.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

ARTICLE 20

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Four Thousand, Eight Hundred and Five dollars and fifty six cents (\$24,805.56) from the Cable Franchise Fee Special Revenue Fund for the necessary cable franchise operational expenses of the Town for 2009.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

ARTICLE 21

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twelve Million, Three Hundred Eighty Three Thousand, Eight Hundred Sixteen Dollars and ninety seven cents, (\$ 12,383,816.97) for the necessary operational expenses of the Town for the ensuing year's budget. This amount does not include all of the amounts raised and appropriated in previous warrant articles.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

BUDGET INFORMATION

2009 Meredith Budget - Revenues

	2008 Estimated	2008 Actual	2009 Estimated
Taxes			
Yield	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,707	\$ 2,000
Boat	32,000	32,899	36,500
Land Use Change Tax			
Interest & Penalties on Taxes	146,050	153,019	78,580
Total Taxes	<u>181,550</u>	<u>189,625</u>	<u>117,080</u>
Licenses and Permits			
Motor Vehicle Permits	1,225,000	1,226,537	1,225,000
Building Permits	110,000	98,588	45,000
Other Licenses, Permits, Fees	60,200	62,069	55,500
Total Licenses and Permits	<u>1,395,200</u>	<u>1,387,194</u>	<u>1,325,500</u>
Intergovernmental Revenues			
State			
Highway Block Grant	183,104	183,104	190,305
Railroad Tax		1,829	1,829
Shared Revenue	31,493	31,493	38,343
Rooms & Meals Tax	288,342	288,342	259,508
Water Pollution Grants	19,366	19,366	19,366
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	35	35	35
State & Forest Land Reimbursement	300	300	300
Other State/Federal Revenue	210,760	219,007	6,000
Total Intergovernmental Revenues	<u>733,400</u>	<u>743,475</u>	<u>515,686</u>
Charges for Services			
Income from Departments	<u>687,390</u>	<u>720,464</u>	<u>814,100</u>
Miscellaneous Revenues			
Sale of Town Property			
Interest on Investments	115,000	144,277	125,000
Insurance & Betterment Assessments	44,775	46,746	30,000
Total Miscellaneous Revenues	<u>159,775</u>	<u>191,023</u>	<u>155,000</u>
Other Financing Sources			
Interfund Transfers			
Special Revenue Fund	337,178	337,178	380,128
Capital Projects Fund			
Trust Funds	225,501	225,501	164,314
Total Other Financing Sources	<u>562,679</u>	<u>562,679</u>	<u>544,442</u>
Total Revenues & Other Financing Sources	<u>3,719,993</u>	<u>3,794,460</u>	<u>3,471,808</u>
Voted from Unreserved Fund Balance	<u>45,780</u>	<u>45,780</u>	<u>365,000</u>
Unreserved Fund Balance Used To			
Reduce Tax Rate	<u>325,000</u>	<u>325,000</u>	<u>325,000</u>
Total Revenues, Other Financial Sources and Use of Fund Balance	<u>\$ 4,090,773</u>	<u>\$ 4,165,240</u>	<u>\$ 4,161,808</u>
Special Revenue Funds			
Sewer	649,095	526,395	614,743
Water	<u>745,760</u>	<u>635,760</u>	<u>765,497</u>
Grand Total All Funds	<u>\$ 5,485,628</u>	<u>\$ 5,327,395</u>	<u>\$ 5,542,048</u>

BUDGET INFORMATION

2009 Meredith Budget - Appropriations

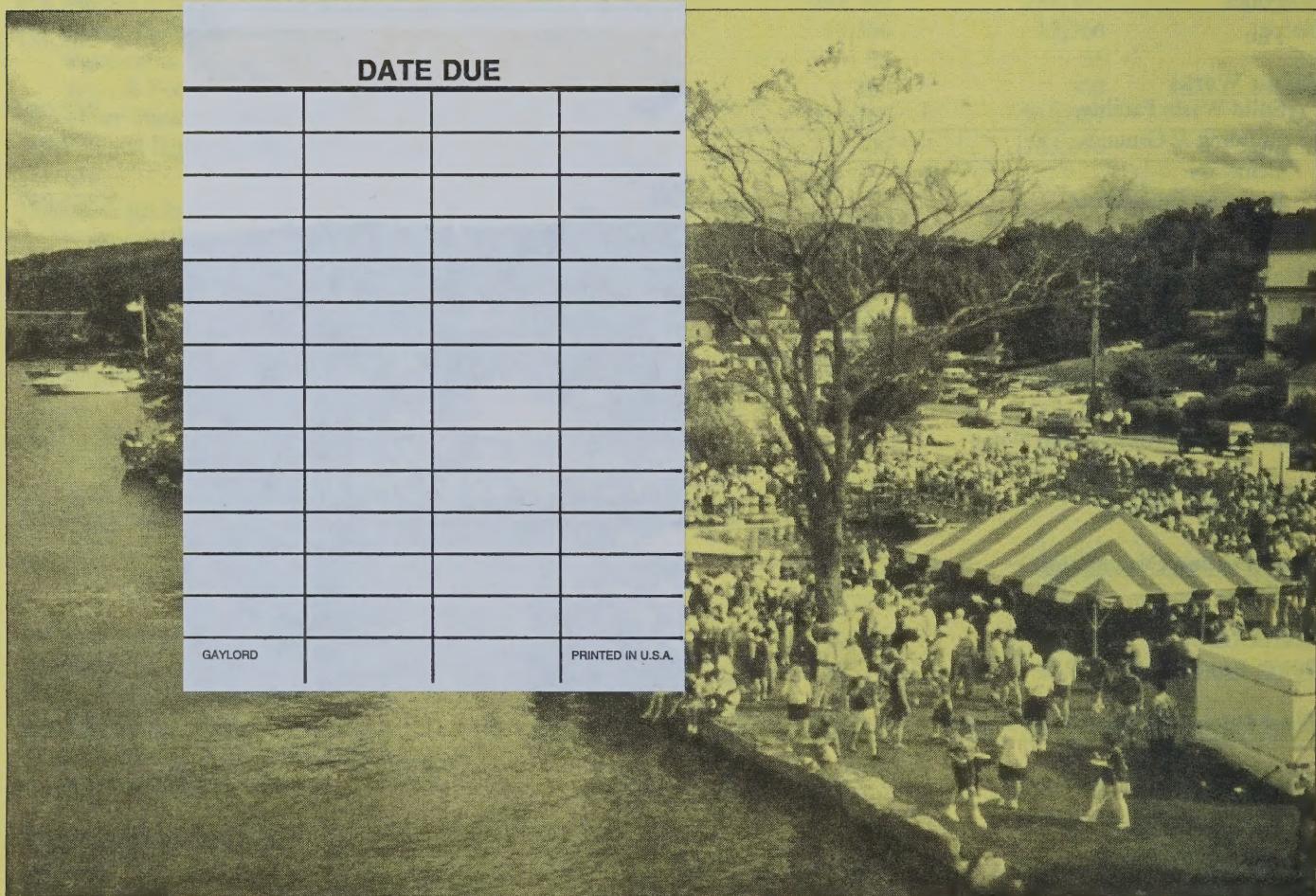
	2008 Appropriations	2008 Expended	2009 Recommended
General Government			
Executive Office	\$ 230,440	\$ 303,287	\$ 229,646
Executive - Municipal Administration	651,216	649,612	689,406
Public Health - Ambulance	256,151	256,151	267,027
Personnel Administration	51,386	60,604	43,061
Town Clerk	143,602	143,965	141,151
Administrative Services	431,752	414,920	433,891
General Assistance	100,250	79,542	100,500
Assessor's Office	223,920	225,545	229,325
Tax Collector's Office	85,700	88,345	89,434
Community Development Department	409,125	418,351	420,580
CIP - Expendable Trust Funds	285,000	285,000	236,000
CIP & Non-CIP - Capital Projects	365,000	365,000	
Regional Association	219,062	217,062	219,062
Public Safety			
Police	1,623,387	1,586,411	1,661,478
Fire	259,421	267,893	280,481
Public Works			
Solid Waste Facility	849,238	818,149	762,084
Building & Grounds	294,599	301,616	297,026
Cemetery	130,607	119,958	127,437
Highway Department	2,377,727	2,442,875	2,352,867
Culture and Recreation			
Parks and Recreation	768,068	753,307	758,863
Library	497,855	515,170	483,594
Debt Service			
Principal - Long-Term Debt	920,691	915,258	1,083,006
Interest - Long-Term Debt	330,071	318,004	364,643
Interest - Tax Anticipation Notes	10,000		10,000
Total General Fund	<hr/> \$ 11,514,267	<hr/> \$ 11,546,025	<hr/> \$ 11,280,561
Conservation Commission	21,115	33,615	19,015
Water Fund	649,095	687,266	614,743
Sewer Fund	<hr/> 745,760	<hr/> 766,062	<hr/> 765,497
Total Operating Budget All Funds	<hr/> \$ 12,930,237	<hr/> \$ 13,032,968	<hr/> \$ 12,679,816
Grand Total - Municipal Budget	<hr/> <hr/> \$ 12,930,237	<hr/> <hr/> \$ 13,032,968	<hr/> <hr/> \$ 12,679,816

BUDGET INFORMATION

2009 Municipal Tax Rate Projection

2009 Appropriations - Approved by Board of Selectmen	\$13,045,317
Less: 2009 Estimated Revenues - Other than Property Taxes	(5,542,048)
Less: Shared Revenues - Town Portion	(36,312)
Add: Proposed Overlay	75,000
Add: War Service Credits (Deducted from Property Tax Warrant)	<u>237,050</u>
Total Net Town Appropriation to be Raised by Taxation	<u><u>\$ 7,779,007</u></u>

2009 Estimated Tax Rate (Municipal Portion Only) \$4.01
Compared to 2008 Tax Rate of \$ 3.98 (Municipal Portion Only)



Annual Lion's Club Rubber Duckie Race

Meredith Area Resources

Emergency and Health Information

Community Action Program	279-4096	Emergency Management Director	279-8933
Lakes Region General Hospital	524-3211	Meredith Public Health Nursing	279-6611
Hanover Poison Information Center 1-800-562-8236			

Legal Services

Belknap County Registry of Deeds	527-5420	Belknap County Superior Court	524-3570
Laconia District Court	524-4128	New Hampshire Legal Assistance	1-800-634-8989

County and State Police

Belknap County Sheriff's Department	524-3830	State Police - Tamworth	323-8112
State Police - Concord 1-800-852-3411			

Permits to Kindle Fires

Fire Station Downtown (Ken Jones-Chief)	279-6061	Meredith Center Store (Barry Ladd)	279-4315
Town Hall (Vikki Fogg & Kerri Parker)	279-4538	Y - Landing Marina (David Hamblet)	279-9916
Harbor Hill Camping Area (Chuck Palm) 279-6910			

Meetings of...Town Boards, Committees and Commissions

Board of Selectmen - Monday

Community Center	5:30 pm	1st and 3rd Monday of the month
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Library Trustees - Tuesday

Meredith Public Library	4:30 pm	2nd Tuesday of the month
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Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee - Tuesday

Community Center	5:00 pm	3rd Tuesday of the month
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Planning Board - Tuesday

Community Center	7:00 pm	2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month
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Conservation Commission - Thursday

Community Center	7:00 pm	1st (public meeting) & 3rd (work session as needed) Thursday of the month
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Waukewan Watershed Advisory Committee - Thursday

Town Hall Annex	8:00 am	2nd and 4th Thursday of the month
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Zoning Board of Adjustment - Thursday

Community Center	7:00 pm	2nd Thursday of the month
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New Hampshire State Library



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